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SUMMARY OF NEWS.

—625—

Politics of Europe.

Referring our Readers to other parts of our JOURNAL for matters of local interest, we here proceed progressively with our European Selections, combining as far as in our power both the useful and the agreeable, so as to give value and attraction to our columns.

Reform of Abuses.—Lord Liverpool on the night of the 19th of July, made a communication to the House of Lords, which we are led to hope may be considered the prelude to a beneficial reform of an extensive class of abuses. His Lordship, on presenting a report from the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Revenue of Ireland, accompanied the presentation of the document by a strong panegyric on the Commissioners by whom it had been drawn up; and who, said the noble Lord, had recommended highly important measures. He further added, that if their Lordships were convinced that the recommendations of the Commissioners had truth and justice on their side, they would give them their liberal support "without favour, fear, or partiality." This language is not merely high sounding, we trust; and we shall be disappointed if the noble speaker does not act up to the spirit of it in the propositions which are to follow. It is understood that the general principle of the intended change is to be a sacrifice of ministerial patronage, and that it will not be applied to Ireland alone, but to Scotland, and in part to this country. The Irish and Scotch Boards of Customs are, it is said, to be abolished, and the custom-house revenue of both those Kingdoms to be placed under the direct control of a Board established here. Officers of the customs, throughout the whole of that wide service, are to be exempted from the influence of caprice, interest or favour, in their enjoyment of promotion. Each is to be henceforth raised by seniority from the lowest ranks of the service, unless he shall have forfeited this benefit by misconduct—a regulation which will bring with it a threefold advantage: 1st, It will induce a more respectable class of men to seek for subordinate situations in the custom-house. 2d, It will secure a larger portion of skill and experience in the higher offices of that essential department than at present. 3d, It will cut up one very noxious branch of corrupt parliamentary patronage, by rendering it vain for the friends of Ministers to solicit profitable places in the Customs for their adherents. We may add, that a convenience to the merchantile interest must flow from the establishment of a supreme Board of Customs in the British metropolis, as it will be much easier and more expeditious for the merchant to appeal at once to the fountain head for redress, than to hunt out his remedy through the circuitous medium of an Irish or Scottish Board of Commissioners, not acting on the same rules as the supreme tribunal here, nor willing at all times to admit the value of one uniform standard for the construction and decision of questions growing out of the revenue laws. We wait with interest for the detailed exposition of the views entertained by government upon this subject.—*Times*.

Beer Retail Bill.—Mr. Brougham's Beer Retail Bill has been with drawn, in deference to the objection to passing so important a Bill at so late a period of the Session. He pledged himself, however, to bring in a similar Bill next Session.

Beer may be considered a necessary of life in this country, and there can be no reason why a poor man should be subject to any restraint with respect to his beer any more than with respect to his bread or meat.

The objections to the freedom of retail which have been urged on this occasion are, first, that without restrictions good beer would not be sold; and secondly, that a free trade would injure the Licensed Victuallers.

With regard to the former, we have it from Mr. Alderman Wood, "that the great quantity of beer which a publican was enabled to draw, made the beverage he could supply very superior to that which could be afforded by a chandler, who would keep perhaps a single barrel, which would, like the small beer that was sold in the same way, be sour in summer and vapid in winter."—This is an argument which we confess we did not anticipate, but we see the wonderful force of it, and we should be astonished if some sagacious persons did not avail themselves of it for the right regulation of other trades.—For instance, a butcher, without a rapid sale, has not, unfrequently, especially in hot weather, very bad meat on his hands.—Now this might be prevented by limiting the number of butchers, so as to ensure to each a rapid and extensive sale.—The time may come when the freedom of the trade may produce such a swarm of butchers, that none of them will have it in their power to sell good meat, just as a free trade in beer would create swarms of sellers of bad beer; and the public in either case would only have a choice of evils. A slight objection, however, occurs, arising out of the circumstance that hitherto, in all cases where competition is open, the public have been uniformly the best supplied. We do not see why all the world should take to selling beer, any more than all the world should take to selling any other commodity. If stale beer only were presented for sale, it would cease to be bought; and if such a calamity were to happen as that the abundance of sellers had deprived the people of their accustomed beverage, why the House might be called to meet early to save, by a new restrictive Bill, a remnant of the parched population from destruction.

The other argument, the injury to the Licensed Victuallers, may, we think, be easily disposed of. The monopoly of the brewer and the publican is not a matter of right. When a publican gives for a house three or four times its value on account of its license, he does so with the knowledge that the Magistrates of the division may license as many houses beside it as they please, and thus reduce the value of his property. The license is for the augmentation of the revenue and the protection of the community from immorality, and not for the protection of the property of the publican or brewer. If, in fact, there has been an understanding between Magistrates and Brewers (frequently the same persons) on this subject it is altogether foreign to the intentment of the law.

We confess the manner in which Mr. Brougham's Bill has been opposed in a liberal Evening Paper (*THE TRAVELLER*) rather surprises us:—"To establish a free trade in any article, it is said, the first thing that is necessary is to place all those engaged in it on a footing of perfect equality, as far as least as legislative enactments are concerned. Our objections to Mr. Brougham's Bill are, that it violates this rule, and that if carried into a law,

it will give one class of persons, who may engage in the trade of beer, a very decided and unfair advantage over another class carrying on the same business."—Here the right of the people of England to supply their necessary wants in the way most advantageous for them goes for nothing, and the supposed right of the Publicans to supply them for every thing. The right of the Publicans is, however, as we have said, altogether assumed, because it is in the power of others at any time to make the privilege they claim of no value to them. A ground landlord, for instance, may tie up all his tenants but one from exercising a particular trade, but this would not give the right of monopoly to the excepted individual, because the landlord could at any time release any of the others from the prohibition. If the Legislature threw the sale of beer open, the most that the publicans are entitled to demand is, that the period for which they have their license should be allowed to expire before the opening begins. They need not renew their license, if they think it is of no advantage to them to continue their trade.—But they are peculiarly precluded from the benefit of the argument, which is drawn from the necessity of a previous equality, because they themselves were the great opposers of the Bill, to throw the trade in beer open (except in as far as the revenue was concerned). They are, in their way, like Mr. Hope's friends, who first refuse all enquiry into his conduct, and then complain of the hardship he suffers from not having an opportunity of contradicting the statements made by those who call for that enquiry.—*Morning Chronicle*, July 19.

Coal trade.—A known correspondent, on whose accuracy and means of information we can rely, begs to point our attention to the state of the coal-trade in the river, and to the conduct of the great coal-owners who supply the metropolis. The complaint is, that, contrary to all the known rules of supply and demand, the price of coals has lately risen, while the demand for fuel, in consequence of the heat of the weather, must have diminished. A few weeks ago it was announced to the public, that the prices of coals at the pits had fallen several shillings per chaldron, and the approach of the dog-days rendered the account extremely probable. We find, notwithstanding, that coals, which on the 1st of July bore only 35s. 9d. per chaldron, had, on the 10th, risen to 39s. 3d.; and on the 12th, to 40s. 3d.; that those which on the 1st were at 39s. 6d., were, on the 3d, 40s.; on the 6th, 40s. 3d.; on the 10th, 42s.; and on the 12th, 42s. 6s.; and, in fact, that every species of coal had, from the 1st to the 15th instant, risen in proportion. In the mean time the arrivals in the river had not diminished in the same degree. We have not before us the exact quantities that arrived during the last or present month, but the following is an account of the quantities which entered the river on the two previous months—April 62,123 chaldrons; May, 128,441.

The arrivals of vessels in the river, from the 1st inst. to the 15th inclusive, amounted to 361, and the following is the rate of their arrival:—From the 1st to the 4th, 78; from the 5th to the 7th, 56; on the 8th, 90; from the 8th to the 10th, 48; from the 10th to the 12th, 34; and from the 12th to the 15th, 65. Such are the facts. The demand for fuel has diminished, the supply has rather increased; and when, consequently, a double diminution of price might have been expected, occasioned by the double operation of an increased supply and a diminished demand, we find prices advancing in the course of the last fortnight two or three shillings a chaldron. Such an unnatural state of the market necessarily inspires the suspicion that it is not left to its natural course of free competition, but that it has been influenced by a combination among the great coal-owners. We should be sorry to hear of any attempt of this kind to raise the price of a necessary of life, against which, however, we think we have a security in the high-minded and liberal principles of some of the gentlemen in question; but it is difficult to account for these facts without supposing something wrong in their system, or something dishonest in their agents. When the nature of the article is considered, the price of which is thus unnecessarily raised—when it is considered that it is already burdened with enormous duties in addition to its original cost, and the expenses of its distant

carriage—when it is considered to how many does it is liable before it reaches the hearths of the poorest inhabitant of the metropolis, our reasons in making the above statement may easily be justified, and our anxiety excused. We may perhaps shortly return to the subject.—*Times*, July 19.

House of Commons.—A more mirthfully disposed assembly than the present House of Commons can hardly be imagined. Not satisfied with a keen-relish for the stalest and most rapid joke, it also extracts merriment from matter the most grave and serious. On Friday (July 12) night a curious specimen was given of this delectable faculty in a deliberative body. The statement made by Mr. BRUGHAM, that a poor man had been ruined by a Chancery suit, quite overrode the gravity of certain gentlemen, and was followed by a burst of laughter. This shows an extraordinarily fine perception of the ridiculous. It is certainly the very drollest thing in the world, that a man should have been ruined by a Chancery suit, and enough to convulse the hearer with laughter. But before this apparently grave matter had passed the House in to joke by the sense of the majority, one would have scarcely thought the projectors famed scheme to extract sun beams from cucumbers more wild, than an attempt to raise a laugh out of the story of a poor man's ruin. A more impracticable subject for mirth to ordinary powers of risibility never perhaps appeared. Nothing, however is impossible to the House of Commons. As a gentleman is now taking a sketch of the House in debate, we would suggest to him the propriety of taking it in one of those happy facetious moments. The piece may be entitled "the Rapture, which gave occasion to one of Mr. CANNING's most successful efforts to produce a laugh. Or, as the novelty of that stroke of humour has somewhat faded, he may take the poor man ruined by Chancery." The picture of a number of wealthy worthy gentlemen, shaking their sides with chuckling at the facetious idea, will be peculiarly pleasing. The motto—"Risu ineptiores nulla ineptior est."

Ireland.—The writer of a letter from Dublin, in *THE COURIER* of Saturday (July 13) after describing the appalling misery that exists in unabated force says, "we may shed the tear of commiseration, but we need say no more; every man in England will do his duty," but the Gentry and Clergy of Ireland must make some efforts more strenuous than shedding tears of commiseration, which is a very idle way of setting about alleviating misery. Our CHANCELLOR may weep for the three kingdoms, and have tears to spare for Turkey and Algiers, should any misfortune befall those respectable states. But the work of benevolence is not to be done by whimpering and talking of our fine sympathies and sensibilities. Those that talk of crying for the poor seldom think of succouring them. Tears cost nothing, especially to practised weepers. The man who puts his shoulder in earnest to the wheel does it in silence.

The Late "Beacon."—On Wednesday last, in the Jury Court, on a motion being made for expences in the cause *LORD A. HAMILTON v. STEVENSON*, their Lordships unanimously declared that full expences were due to the pursuer, and appointed an account thereof to be given in the Court to be taxed.

Sir Everard Home.—At a Meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons in London, on Friday, the 12th of July, being the first Meeting for the Election of officers, holden under the Supplementary Charter granted by his present Majesty; the President, Sir Everard Home, Bart presented, by the authority of his Majesty, a Mace of exquisite design and execution, having engraved on it the following inscription:—

Ex Munificentia

Augustissimi Monarchæ

Georgii IV.

Dei Gra. Britanniarum Regis, &c.

Collegii Regalis Chirurgorum

Patroni Optimi

An Dom. MDCCCXXII.

Everard Home Barronetto Primo Præsidi.

On the delivery of this splendid token of Royal favour, the President congratulated the Council on the highly gratifying opi-

ness which the King had been graciously pleased to express of the exertions of the College in promotion of Anatomical and Chirurgical Knowledge, and on the beneficial influence which the animating sentiments, and correspondent munificence of his Majesty, would necessarily have in the future endeavours of the Council.

The Council then made Election of Sir William Blizard to be President; and of Henry Cline and Wm. Norris, Esqrs. to be Vice Presidents for the year ensuing; and of Sir Wm. Blizard, Henry Cline, William Norris, William Lyon, John Abernethy, Esqrs., Sir Astley Cooper, Bart. and Sir Anthony Carlisle, to be the Curators of the Museum for the three ensuing years.

Rousseau.—M. de Presle, a physician, was the friend of Rousseau. Some time before the latter's death, he was visited at Ermenouville by the physician, who found him coming up from the cellar, as if it was a great fatigue to him. When asked why, at his age, he did not depute that task to Madame Rousseau? "What would you have me do? (he replied) When she goes there, she stays."

Bonaparte and the Bourbons.—To give you an instance of the general feeling in France towards the Bourbons, (said Napoleon) I will relate to you an anecdote. On my return from Italy, while my carriage was ascending the steep hill of Tarare, I got out, and walked up, without my attendants, as was often my custom. I saw an old woman, lame, and hobbling about with the help of a crutch, endeavouring to ascend the mountain. I had a great coat on, and was not recognised. I went up to her, and said, "Well, ma bonne, where are you going with a haste which so little belongs to your years? What is the matter?" "Ma foi," replied the old dame, "they tell me the Emperor is here, and I want to see him before I die." "Bah, bah," said I; "What do you want to see him for? What have you gained by him? He is a tyrant, as well as the others. You have only changed one tyrant for another—Louis for Napoleon." "Mais, Monsieur, that may be; but after all, he is the King of the People, and the Bourbons were the Kings of the Nobles. We have chosen him; and if we are to have a tyrant, let him be one chosen by ourselves."—There, said he, you have the sentiments of the French nation, expressed by an old woman—*Napoleon in Exile.*

Marriage.—The Duke de Nivernois was acquainted with the Countess de Rochefort, and never omitted going to see her a single evening. As she was a widow, and he a widower, one of his friends observed to him, it would be more convenient for him to marry that lady. "I have often thought so," said he, "but one thing prevents me: in that case, where should I spend my evenings?"—*Memoirs of a Traveller now in Retirement.*

A Screen Rehearsing.—Prévillle the comedian, and some others (among whom was, I believe, the Count d'Albaret) frequently diverted themselves with the simplicity of Poinciset, the poet, who, in other respects, was not deficient in talents. One day, Prévillle came to him in great haste, to acquaint him that the office of the King's Screen was just vacant, and added, he would do well to solicit for it. Poinciset asked what it was: the other told him, that the King did not use common screens, like private individuals, but he always employed a man of wit, to stand between the King and the fire, in whatever part of the room his Majesty might be, in order to save him the trouble of removing the screen. When the King was low-spirited, or was fatigued by his application to business, he diverted himself by conversing with his Screen; who, by that means, frequently had an opportunity of speaking a good word for his friends, or in favour of any person he wished to serve, which made the office both important and lucrative. Poinciset, delighted, asked what he had to do. "Nothing," said the other, "but try if you are able to fulfil the functions of a Screen." A day being fixed, a dinner was ordered at a tavern: six of their common friends met there; a great fire was made, and during dinner they kept poor Poinciset standing before the fire-place, encouraging him to support the extreme heat of the fire (which they unmercifully kept stirring all the time) by representing to him the advantages of the office, each begging of him to procure him some favour. They continued this cruel

sport till the little man, who was half roasted, declared, with great regret, that he despaired of ever being able properly to fulfil the functions of the King's Screen?—*Memoirs of a Traveller.*

Duke of Rutland.—At the late audit of the Duke of Rutland at which it was expected that his Grace's tenantry, near Newmarket, would pay rents due to the amount of between eight and nine thousand pounds, not a single thousand was received by the steward.

Coronation Feet.—A great deal of surprise has been occasioned by the circumstance of Lord Stowell having been defrauded of a guinea by a *vol d'argent*, Collector of Coronation Fees. The known wariness of that prudent Nobleman in all money matters, and perfect consciousness of the value of a guinea, were supposed to place him beyond the reach of fraud; and at first blush, it is truly wonderful that he should have been imposed upon. A little reflection, however, explains the affair. The title of Stowell is a new creation, and the satisfaction of writing down his name in any list is very great to a new Lord, more especially in a Coronation list; perhaps then the pleasure of reminding the world of his new-blown honours overcame the accustomed caution of the learned Judge. We would just hint to the Collectors of rare coins, that it would be well worth their trouble to secure the identical guinea procured from Lord Stowell without valuable consideration. It is matchless, there is not another in the whole kingdom. The Chancellor must be filled with gratitude for his escape; a few hours more, and he had suffered a loss he never could have recovered—had he lost a guinea by the base fraud projected, he never could have afforded to resign.—*Morning Chronicle.*

Royal Academy.—Six thousand pounds is said to be the sum taken at the door of the Royal Academy, for admissions to view the late exhibition.

Royal Menagerie.—A correspondent says, "His Majesty's Menagerie in the Tower, which has long been on the decline, is now dwindled into absolute insignificance, as the only remaining animal worth seeing (the Elephant) died lately, and scarce any thing now remains but two or three bears, to be maintained at an enormous expense to the country."

Taxation.—The duty upon a plowman's pair of shoes amounts to 12d upon a lord's, 5d. This the Boroughmongers call equal justice!

Parish Clerk.—A parish clerk in the neighbourhood of Chichester, upon first taking possession of his desk on reading the psalms, and coming to the following passage.—"The unrighteous shall be compared unto the beasts that perish," bawled out—"The unrighteous shall be compared unto the best of the parish."

Consistency of Character.—"I could write" (said Goldsmith to Johnson) "a good fable on the story of the little fishes, who envied the birds flying over their heads; and its merit should consist mainly in making them talk like little fishes."—Here Johnson laughed.—"Why Doctor," said Goldsmith, somewhat piqued, "this is not so easy a matter as you seem to think, for if you were to attempt it, all the little fishes would talk like whales."

Anniversary.—A ceremony of mourning or veneration, which is deficient in nothing but grief or respect. A period that recalls the remembrance of a noble action, but more frequently of a great crime. It is customary to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of a rich relative; that of his long-desired death is soon forgotten.—*Man of the World's Dictionary.*

D'Alembert.—Who is happy? "Some miserable man," answered D'Alembert;—a reply (says Baron Grimm) that would have done credit to Diogenes.

Ben Jonson.—Ben Jonson's first interview with Mr. Corbet (afterwards Bishop Corbet) took place at a tavern. The Poet desired the waiter to take to the young Gentleman a quart of raw wine, and tell him, "I sacrifice my service to him."—"Friend (replied Corbet) I thank him for his love; but tell him from me that he is mistaken, for sacrifices are always burnt." This happy allusion to the pulled wine of the time, greatly pleased the jovial Dramatist.

Lord President Hope.*To the Editor of the Times.*

SIR,

You have often made many and just observations on the evil of personal attacks on the characters of individuals, which are much too common in the public papers of all parties. I appeal to your candour and honour, of both which I entertain a very high opinion, whether, in your paper of this day, in the rumours from the *chronique scandaleuse* of Edinburgh, and in your remarks on them you have not deviated from the path you have often pointed out as the duty of public journals to follow. I am sure that you will, in candour, insert this from

July 19, 1822.

A CONSTANT READER.

[Our correspondent is quite mistaken in supposing that what we said about Lord President Hope yesterday, comes at all within the range of the personal attacks which the most scrupulous public writer would condemn. We said nothing of the private character or personal conduct of the learned Judge, to which we are happy to bear our testimony as entirely unimpeachable. The fact to which we alluded occurred in the discharge of his public functions, and became as notorious in Edinburgh at the time, as the journey of his son to London will be in that capital in the course of next week. The whole case bears a singular resemblance to recent transactions in some of its circumstances, and as singular a dissimilarity in others. A gentleman at the Scotch bar, of opposition politics became connected with an Edinburgh newspaper, charged with having published a libel. On this, Lord President Hope, then Solicitor-General (we believe), moved his expulsion from the faculty of advocates. The motion was supported and carried by the same party that removed the greatest ornament of the Scotch bar, Mr. Harry Erskine, from the honour of being Dean. The gentleman, angry at this cruel annihilation of his professional prospects, gave such provocation during the progress of the measure to his antagonist, as in other cases would have led to a hostile meeting; and afterwards published a letter in the *Courier*, then a Jacobin paper, calling him by a name which we cannot admit into our columns. Mr. Hope, to the surprise of every body, maintained a judicious and imperturbable gravity.]

Mexican Proclamation.

Mexico.—It is evident that the nomination of Iturbide, as Emperor of Mexico, has not yet received the sanction of the Provinces, and the private advisers both from the capital and Vera Cruz, state that considerable preparations were making to oppose it, not on the principle of allegiance to Spain, for the bond that formerly connected the two countries is for ever broken; but because this is not considered to be the will of the people at large, nor is it thought that he has any adequate claim to such a dignity, that may tend to embroil the country and lower it in the estimation of Europe. In the mean time this choice has been sanctioned by the American Congress, although not in a very regular and formal manner. The whole of the Deputies to the Mexican Congress are 162, of whom 140 were at the time in the capital; but none of them had brought from their respective Provinces the sentiments of their constituents on this important subject. Only 80 Deputies attended the Congress on the day when the choice of Iturbide as Emperor was made, the remainder in the capital having declined to attend, being aware of what was going on. Of the 80 present, 67 voted in favour of the nomination, and 13 against it. What this may lead to, it is at present impossible to tell; but as every thing that regards so great and valuable a division of the American Continent is of moment to us, we shall take every opportunity of laying before our readers such papers and documents as ran in any way elucidate the subject.—*Diario de Vera Cruz*, May 20, 1822.

"PROCLAMATION OF THE EMPEROR. SENOR DON AUGUSTIN THE FIRST.

"*Inhabitants of the Mexican Empire!*—The wish to preserve, in addressing you, the tone and confidence of a simple fellow citizen, is even yet entertained by him whom you have been pleased to raise from that class to the Imperial dignity. What have you found in your compatriot to render him worthy of an honour so exalted and brilliant? Did you, perchance, see in him the man who emancipated the nation from the tyranny of three centuries? Is the crown an offering of gratitude, natural to so magnanimous and generous a people? Yes, certainly; gratitude, that sentiment which Heaven has implanted in all hearts of this delicious region, never shewed itself in greater force than at the time when our country recognised herself free and independent. From that moment I was struck with admiration of the thankful feelings of the inhabitants—then, were the diadem and obedience rendered to me with free and sincere acclamation; and I would have then accepted them at once, making to my country this last sacrifice, assuredly the most painful, considering natural dispositions and the object of my wishes since I began to institute comparisons between the disquietudes

of the world and the sweets of solitude—had not my very duties and services, pledged to the country, furnished me with a two fold motive for refusing her liberal offers. Fixed in the principle that every thing should be given up to the country—resolute and consistent in the plan conceived for the recovery of National Independence, and faithful to the Treaties concluded at Cordova with a Minister of the Spanish Government, it will not be said that Iturbide availed himself of the regard of the people, but only to moderate the demonstrations of their love and gratitude. Scarcely had public opinion begun to manifest itself through the Press, designating him as the person to wield the sceptre of the empire, when he endeavoured, without delay, to give it a different direction. He declared and proclaimed his own, in public and private, as Citizen and as Magistrate; as one interested in the glory of the nation, and punctilious and delicate in respect to what regarded his personal interests.—That laurels of that victory which broke the power of the oppressors of his country, quietly encompassed his brows, and assigned the proper limits to that laudable ambition which feeds dates all the virtues. Why then constrain him to ascend the Throne, from whose elevation he can no longer view with complacency the services rendered to his country, without feeling himself pressed down by the excess of his recompense? The nation has so willed it; and Iturbide yields to her supreme will, now that he ascertains that it is not an inconsiderate movement of blind gratitude, but that irresistible impulse which always directs the general wish to the end of public prosperity

"The nation, indeed, desired it eagerly; but was diverted from it by the dangerous collision of opinions. The form of the Government had no consistency; it was threatened alike to be made the despotism of those who struggled against her independence, and to be annihilated by her most enthusiastic protectors. Our country was at one time exposed to drench with her blood the steps of a throne that a foreign prince might mount it, and at another to be torn in pieces by factious of her own sons. Meanwhile a mortal paralysis began to prevail, that stopped the supplies of the national treasury, enervated the army, benumbed the Government, impaired the vigour of the empire, and prepared us to be the easy prey of foreign invasion; of secret machination, or of intestine discord. Every thing in fine, betrayed certain symptoms of that same anarchy into which the Mexican nation was about to plunge, when the Imperial army proclaimed her independence at Iguala.

"And was the nation not to exert freely her will in such a crisis? Was not the hand which was adequate to save her in her preceding ominous situation, laid under an obligation, in consistency, ever afterwards to protect and save her? Yes, adored country, that same hand, with the single aim of your preservation, will away the sceptre which you have confided to it! In the same spirit and measure that he sought honesty to decline it as a reward for past services, will he labour to sustain the weight which is added to it by the very circumstances under which it is received. That which could not be conceded, without reproach, to your mere gratitude, cannot, blamelessly, be denied to your service, to your benefit, to your authority.

"You have before you now, fellow citizens, the real impressions of your obliged compatriot. Heaven is a witness to them that has deigned so visibly, always to condescend his sincere aims. He attests Heaven in proof of those which have determined him to accept the crown. You are also aware of our deplorable situation, and the necessity of escaping from it by whatever course we can. Full of virtue and moderation, you have chosen to pursue the dictates of gratitude, and to exercise the right inherent in every free nation, to establish the form of her Government, and to nominate her chiefs.

"The national will is respected; and he in whose favour it has been pronounced, cannot take umbrage at the dissent remarked in some persons before the formal act which elevated him to the rank of first citizen and chief of the nation. Much less can those be objects of his dislike and resentment, who for their dear country, will discover in him who is charged with the common welfare, only the tenderness of a fellow citizen and a friend—in the habit of obedience from his earliest years he has had lessons of command unknown to those who acquire power by hereditary title; unaccustomed to prejudice, vanity and adulation he can feel and acknowledge the supremacy of the law, and be penetrated with the certain truth that love of the people is the felicity of the Prince and the kindness of the Prince the felicity of the people.

"Oh, let this be the glorious foundation of your choice! And since, fellow-citizens, you understand the motives which prompted the acceptance of your favour, at so great a sacrifice of inclination, co-operate with me, to the end that the Imperial authority may be constantly directed to the public weal! to the repulse of all dangers which may threaten it, and to the aggrandisement of the empire. Above all, be persuaded of the very tender affection and cordiality with which the wisest of the nation are gratified by

AUGUSTIN."

PARLIAMENTARY.

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Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS, FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1832.

The Scots' jury bill was read a third time, and passed.

Returns relative to Irish tithes were presented from the office of the Chief Secretary for Ireland.

The Irish insolvent debtors' bill, the leather duties' bill, and the Duchy of Cornwall bill, were read a second time.

REVENUE OF IRELAND.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL presented a report from the commissioners appointed to inquire into the revenue of Ireland. The report did great honour to the commissioners who had drawn it up, and he could not lay it on the table without calling the serious attention of the house, and more especially the attention of those of their lordships who were connected with Ireland, to this most important investigation of the financial system of that country. Their lordships would find that the commissioners had recommended very important measures, and he was persuaded that if the investigation should be properly followed up, the result could not but be more beneficial not only to that part of the country to which the inquiry had been more particularly directed, but to the empire at large. It would be for their lordships afterwards to consider what regulations should be adopted under the sanction of Parliament. But if the regulations proposed were founded on justice and sound policy, no local interests, no personal interests, no consideration of favour or partiality, ought to operate to prevent their being carried into effect. In saying this, he was confident that if their lordships were convinced that the recommendation of the commissioners had truth and justice on its side, they would give it their liberal support without favour, fear, or partiality.

The Earl of LIMERICK experienced much pleasure in hearing what had fallen from the noble earl, and concurred with him in the conviction, that no ideas of interest or favour ought to be allowed to prevent the carrying into effect a measure calculated to promote the public welfare.

The Marquis of LANSDOWN could not refrain from stating that he had heard with great satisfaction the explanation made by the noble earl respecting the report he had just presented, and also the expression of the noble earl's sentiments on the important subject, in which he doubted not their lordships and the country would concur. He trusted that the investigation would be effectually followed up. It was not for him to anticipate what might be the result of the recommendation in the report on the table; but the investigation had fully justified the opinion given by the eminent person who first suggested the inquiry.

The Earl of DARNLEY also stated his approbation of the sentiment expressed by the noble earl, but took the present opportunity of advertising to what had taken place on a subject to which he had before called their lordships' attention—namely, the stationery furnished to public offices in Ireland. He understood that the House of Commons had voted a specific sum to make good loss in the stationery department. If, however, he had the papers which had been moved for, he should be able to prove that the public had already paid for too much. He wished to know what was the cause of the delay in their production?

The Earl of LIVERPOOL observed, that a proposition had been made to supply stationery for a specific sum, and that an arrangement was going on respecting it. The delay in making out the returns had arisen from the great number of years which the motion embraced and which rendered the making of extracts a business of considerable time.

IRISH GRAND JURY PRESENTMENTS.

The Marquis of LANSDOWN reminded their lordships, that in consequence of what had passed the other day on the bill relative to grand jury presentments, it was considered that there was not sufficient information before the house to justify their adopting the measure with satisfaction to themselves. It was, however, thought, that it would be advisable to record the opinion of the house on the subject, and he therefore now moved a resolution, recognizing the principle of the bill.

After a few words from Lords REDESDALE and DONOUGHMORE, the resolution was agreed to.

IRISH INSURRECTION ACT.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL rose, on the order of the day, to move the second reading of this bill. The noble earl referred to the state of the country, as the ground on which he called on their lordships to pass this bill. There was no disposition in the Government of Ireland to exercise unduly the power which it was unfortunately necessary to give not to retain it a moment a longer than the safety of the country required.

ed. There was no reason to apprehend that the powers given by the act would be misused; but the despatches from the Lord Lieutenant showed, that though tranquillity and security to property was ensured by the act, there was reason to apprehend the most injurious effects would take place were it to be suspended. Their lordships would not do their duty to the loyal inhabitants of Ireland, if they did not give to the government of that country such powers as were capable of giving security to liberty and property, and without which government could be of no use. Under these circumstances, he anticipated their lordships' assent to the bill.

The Marquis of LANSDOWN did not mean to oppose the bill, but did not think he would be justified in giving a silent vote. Though he must admit the measure to be necessary for the safety of the country, he considered himself bound to enter his protest against continuing to act on the principle of this bill, which was the offspring of a system of palliation of evils, unaccompanied with any evidence, at least any parliamentary evidence, of an intention to adopt means for the removal of those evils. The despatches to which the noble earl had referred contained a condemnation of the measure. It was stated that the insurrection act had a temporary effect, but that the moment its operation was withdrawn from a district, the same evil recurred. Thus it was evidently no remedy. It might preserve tranquillity for a while, but their lordships were bound to lose no opportunity for taking measures to bring about a return to constitutional government in Ireland. What was necessary to be done was, to teach the people not to depend for their security on the conduct of any Lord Lieutenant or the magistrates, but on their own rights and the laws of the country. It was to the full protection of the law, and to a conscious conviction of that protection in the minds of the people, that their lordships were to look for tranquillity. The noble marquis concluded by objecting to the clause which prevents actions being brought against magistrates for any thing done in the execution of this act, and intimated his intention of proposing an amendment on it in the committee.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH, though he disapproved of the principle of the bill, felt himself bound to agree to it, as it afforded a protection which the people of Ireland were by habit brought to expect. In giving his consent to this bill, he held the government to be more distinctly bound to introduce measures of conciliation.

The Earl of LIMERICK supported the bill. If it did not pass, he was convinced there would be no security for the lives and property of the loyal part of the inhabitants of Ireland. With respect to the clause on the subject of actions, he was afraid that if any change was made in it, the effect might be to paralyze the efforts of the magistrates.

Lord REDESDALE also supported the bill, on the ground of immediate necessity. The cause of the evil of which all complained, he observed, was, that the law had never been properly administered in Ireland. The consequence was, that the character of the people of Ireland was affected by that maladministration. In considering the character of the people of Ireland, he was convinced that they might in time be brought to pay as complete submission to the laws, as the people on this side of the Channel. When the natives of Ireland came to this country, they readily submitted to the laws, because they found that the same laws equally protected themselves and others.

The Earl of DARNLEY gave his consent to the bill under the same qualification as other noble lords. He expressed a general confidence in the noble marquis at the head of the government of Ireland, but thought that some explanation was due respecting his conduct, in allowing a scene lately to take place in Dublin, which was calculated to excite strong party feeling. He strongly condemned proceedings which made the name of the founder of British liberty a means of maintaining party animosities. With regard to Ireland, no real good could be expected from palliatives. It was necessary to go to the root of the evil; and if no able hand took up the urgent subject of the situation of Ireland, he would himself bring it forward early in the next session of parliament.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL rose to say a few words in consequence of the allusion which had been made to a recent occurrence in Dublin. He begged to be understood as most distinctly stating, that what took place on the occasion referred to, was not only contrary to the opinion, but to the wish of the noble lord at the head of the Irish government. He had even taken legal opinion and advice on the subject, but the question was found to be one of great delicacy. If any person who wished to prevent the proceedings had come forward and sworn that something was contemplated which was likely to lead to a breach of the public peace, then the government might have intervened. In this opinion he believed his noble and learned friend would concur. There had been great provocation which led to the transaction. That the marquis did not interfere was not, however, from any disinclination to

prevent the proceeding, but in consequence of the high legal opinion he had received.

The Earl of DARNLEY did not for a moment suppose that the transaction to which he had alluded had taken place with the concurrence of the noble marquis, and was glad that what he had said had given occasion to the explanation which had been made.

The LORD CHANCELLOR would not be doing justice to the noble marquis, if he did not state, that after the most careful examination which he could give to the subject, he was convinced the noble marquis had done every thing to prevent the proceedings alluded to, which he was entitled to do by law.

The Earl of DONOUGHMORE rose to declare his reluctant assent to this measure as one of imperative necessity alone. He reposed the utmost confidence in the noble marquis at the head of the Irish government, and when that distinguished statesman called for such a measure, it could only be upon the imperious duty which compelled him to resort to that means of preserving the frame of society in Ireland. That Ireland had been long and cruelly misgoverned was a notorious fact; but the question here was, what could be done in the midst of a lawless and powerful confederacy against all order: such a state of things must be put down, and he (the Earl of Donoughmore), who knew the state of Ireland, was compelled to admit that there was no other way of meeting the existing evil than by resorting to such a measure as this. Some were of opinion that the bill ought to be accompanied by other measures of a conciliatory nature: he for one could not see the necessary connexion between this and such measures, and he supported the present bill rather as an isolated one, than as one connected with other views of Irish policy, which, however, indispensable, were not now before the house. In a season of peace, when topics of calm deliberation were capable of being practically considered, he had not the smallest doubt but that the Marquis Wellesley would sustain his character by deeply considering the situation of his country; but at present he saw no other course for him than to resort to strong measures to support the dominion of the law. It was a lamentable fact, that Ireland had not received the benefits which were anticipated for her by himself and others at the time of the union. That measure relieved Ireland from a parliament which was a terrible engine of corruption—an engine operating to produce such extensive mischief, that all good men saw no safety for their country but by the sacrifice of a body which was its bane. Unhappily, however, the promised boon of salutary government had been withheld. He had, however, the utmost hopes from the present Lord-Lieutenant, from whose despatches he read several extracts in justification of the present bill; and was convinced that when the moment came for calmly looking at the state of Ireland, that noble marquis would be found to sustain his high character. At present, terrible as was the evil, he saw no reason to refuse his support to this measure, his confidence being always in the high quarter from which the recommendation came, and justified only by the necessity of the case.

The Earl of ROSSLYN rose to address their lordships, because he was unwilling to be included in the sweeping declaration of a noble earl who had preceded him—that all who were present were ready to give a tacit approbation to this measure. He feared that they must look to it, not as a temporary, but as a permanent measure, inasmuch as he could see no prospect of any satisfactory issue to the present discontent of Ireland. He objected to the bill, because it gave an excessive power over the people to the magistracy, in whom the people in general placed but little confidence. He believed that the population of Ireland looked more frequently for protection to the military officers stationed among them, than they did to the magistracy of their country, though the latter were bound by their oaths to afford it to them at every risk and upon all occasions.

The Earl of RODEN believed that no other measure was so well calculated as the present to meet the evil under which Ireland now laboured, or to afford security and protection to all classes of his Majesty's subjects in that country. He attributed the evils of Ireland, not to the want of Catholic emancipation, but to the absenteeism of its great landed proprietors. In that opinion he was fully borne out by the fact, that wherever the landlord resided on his estate, there peace and prosperity always existed. If the noble marquis opposite was as well acquainted as he (Earl of Roden) was with the condition of Ireland, he was sure that the noble marquis would never propose to make such alterations of the bill in the committee as he had that evening given notice of.

Lord HOLLAND had no hesitation in saying that if he could confide in any man such frightful and unconstitutional powers as were granted by this bill, he would confide them to the noble marquis at present at the head of the Irish Government; for he would admit in the most broad and explicit manner, that as far as he could judge, the noble marquis had always exercised those powers with calm deliberation and cautious

judgment. The powers, however, that were granted by the insurrection act, he would never again grant to any individual, so long as he had a seat in a British house of parliament. He had once in his life supported such a bill; but without any affection of conscience, he would say that the vote which he had given in support of it, lay like a lump of lead upon his mind, and was the only act of his political life, of which upon a retrospect he sincerely repented. One of his objections to the bill was the enormous extent of its powers. The noble and learned lord opposite said that these powers were absolutely necessary. Allowing that they were so, still he would ask why is not the bill conferring them accompanied by some measure of a conciliatory nature? "Oh," said another noble lord, "how can you expect the noble marquis to be prepared with a measure of that nature in six months, when I, who have been 20 years examining into the causes of the evils in Ireland, have not been able to discover a remedy for them; and further, when the British Government in the long lapse of 300 years has been equally unsuccessful?" Such a reply, however, was but a very sorry argument for a continuance of the present system. He should have expected that if the evils complained of had already existed 300 years, and those laws which they had passed to remove, had only served to aggravate them, they would have determined as a last resource, to adopt a new line of conduct, and to try conciliation where coercion had absolutely failed. The noble lord, however, attributed much of the evil of Ireland to the want of respect paid to the laws by the population of that country: he would, however, ask, were the laws themselves respectable? So long as they were of a nature like that upon their table, he would make bold to say that they would never excite respect in the breasts of either the people or the magistracy. When the late tasteless and cowardly insults to the great mass of Irish feeling was mentioned in the house, a noble lord had said that the noble marquis at the head of the Irish government had no power to put them down. If that were the case, he would ask why it was so, and why Parliament had not given to him that authority, when it had given to him other authority much more odious, much more dangerous, and much more unconstitutional? The present bill was an instance of that kind of authority; and, as an English gentleman, he would say, that if such a bill were passed in England, he would immediately throw up his commission as a magistrate, because he was convinced that no man could execute it without becoming a worse man in character and principle, and what was, perhaps, no less important, a worse subject to a free government. The noble baron then proceeded to ridicule the idea of attributing all the evils of Ireland to the absenteeism of its great landed proprietors; and afterwards proceeded to state that he should oppose this bill, first, because it was liable to abuse, not so much from the Government, as from the internal magistracy of Ireland. Indeed, divided as Ireland was into two great factions, it was not less unjust than impolitic to give one of them such enormous powers as this bill did over the other. It placed arbitrary power in the hands of those who were likely to abuse it, sometimes from fear, and at other times from a wish to take revenge. Indeed he would rather confer such authority as it gave upon the military officers of the crown, than upon those whom it employed in Ireland in a civil capacity. It had been said by some individual whom he did not know, in a place of which he knew as little, that this was very extraordinary doctrine in him who had an *hydrophobia* of military power. *Hydrophobia* of military power! The expression was most extraordinary, and if used by an Irishman, fully proved what a noble lord had stated that evening, that Ireland was in great want of good schoolmasters. Indeed, if the person who had recently used it, had used it at the time he was of tender age, in all probability his "fundamental feature," to borrow another word from the same vocabulary, would have suffered a little for so daring a metaphor. (laughter.) He would, however, state a reason why it was not so very extraordinary in him to hold this doctrine. It was this—that if it were necessary to grant excessive powers, it was better to give them to those whose were the most accustomed to the use of them, inasmuch as he had observed that the regular practitioner always left a less wound behind him than the ignorant dabbler in the art of physic. The noble baron then proceeded to state other arguments against this bill. He said that it was not adopted to the end which it professed to have in view. It was not so well calculated to put down the present evils of Ireland, as many other measures, which, though open to objection, were none of them open to such objections as could be urged against the measure. It was a disappointment to parliament and to the country at large, inasmuch as it was not accompanied by any measure of redress, as had been promised at the commencement of the session. Over and above all, it was calculated to aggravate all the evils under which Ireland at present laboured. Having all these disadvantages, and being also contrary to the spirit of the British constitution, he could not for a moment consent to the passing of such a measure.

The LORD CHANCELLOR then put the question, and the bill was read a second time without a division. It was then ordered to be committed on Monday, for which day their lordships are summoned.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1832.

Mr. LUSHINGTON brought in a bill for providing for the continuance of the bounties to the Greenland fisheries, which was read a first time.

The commercial credit (Ireland) bill passed through a committee, and the report was ordered to be received on Monday.

Mr. BROGDEN brought up the report of the committee on the stamp duties bill: the resolutions were read and agreed to.

SALT DUTIES.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved the third reading of the salt duties' repeal bill.

Mr. C. GRANT observed, that the bill, if it were passed in its present shape, would operate injuriously towards persons engaged in the manufacture of kelp in the Highlands of Scotland.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER and Mr. CALDWELL contended that the repeal of a tax which was a benefit to the community at large must always prove detrimental to particular interests. The legislature could provide no remedy for such cases.

The bill was then read a third time, and passed.

THE LATE QUEEN'S HOUSEHOLD.

The house resolved itself into a committee on the bill for granting pensions to certain of her late Majesty's servants.

Mr. HUME objected to the payment of the pensions out of the consolidated fund, and wished them to be placed upon the (95,000*l.*) pension list as vacancies might occur.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER observed, that it would be inexpedient to adopt the suggestion of the hon. member, because it might be a considerable time before any vacancies would occur in the pension list.

Mr. HUME replied, that there was a fair chance that all the pensions included in the right hon. gentleman's resolutions might be placed upon the pension list in one year.

Mr. H. G. BENNET supported Mr. Hume's proposition.

The resolutions were then agreed to, the house resumed, and the report was ordered to be brought up on Monday.

The royal burghs' accounts bill was read a third time, and passed.

BURGH MAGISTRATES' RESIDENCE BILL.

Upon the motion of the LORD ADVOCATE, this bill was read a third time.

Lord BINNING then proposed that a clause should be added to the bill for providing that a clear majority of the members of the town council shall be resident, and have their place of business, within 3 miles of the burgh to which they belong.

Mr. HUME thought the noble lord's clause did not go far enough, and submitted one which he had prepared, and which proposed that all the members of the town council should be resident within the limit before stated.

Mr. K. DOUGLAS and the LORD ADVOCATE supported Lord Binning's clause.

The gallery was then cleared. We understood that Lord Binning's clause was agreed to without a division. Mr. Hume's clause, however, was lost upon a division, the numbers being—

For the clause, 20—Against it, 20—Majority, 6.

Mr. HUME next proposed a clause for providing that no person employed in the customs or excise, or the management of the public revenue, should be elected to the office of provost or bailie or to be a member of the town council.

Lord BINNING said, he saw no reason for taking a way the right of citizenship from the class of persons pointed out in the honorable member's clause. If the principle of the clause were sanctioned with respect to Scotland, it ought also to be acted upon in other parts of the empire.

The house then divided, and the numbers were—

For the clause, 20, Against it, 20, Majority against it, 6.

Lord BINNING presented a petition from certain journeyman printers heretofore employed in printing the parliamentary journals, setting forth that they had been summoned before a committee of the House of Commons, to give evidence to the mode of printing these journals; that after their examination they had been discharged; and that they themselves, after having deposited in the truth, and their families most, without

some relief, be starved. They therefore prayed the honorable house to take their case into its consideration. The noble lord declared that he supported the prayer of the petition.

Mr. HUME certainly thought that some measure of relief in regard to these individuals ought to be adopted.

Mr. W. SMITH concurred in thinking that it was highly necessary to adopt some proceeding for this purpose.

The petition was then ordered to be printed, and to lie on the table.

CONSULATE IN THE BRAZILS.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY wished to call the attention of the house, and of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Hume), to a somewhat extraordinary proceeding which had taken place on the night of Wednesday last. He understood that towards the close of the sitting, during which a question connected with the consul-general of his Majesty at Rio Janeiro had formed a part of the discussion, the hon. gentleman opposite, without handing to him (Lord Londonderry) any document upon which his motion was founded, or furnishing him with any information whatever as to his intentions, put into the hands of the chair, a motion which he said he had already communicated to him (Lord Londonderry), but of which he was really by no means aware. (hear.) He was exceedingly well content to leave it to the house to judge whether he (Lord Londonderry) was very likely to be the author of a proposition for an address to the crown, certainly of the most singular and extraordinary nature that he ever heard of. The first part of the proposed address related to a correspondence supposed to have taken place between his Majesty's Secretary of State, and the consul-general in the Brazils, in respect of the allowances made to consul-general; consuls, and vice-consuls, but the second part was that to which he (Lord Londonderry) should more particularly address himself. And really he was very much surprised to find that the hon. member had, without any intimation as it were, taken upon himself to do his business for him (a laugh and cries of "hear"); for the fact was, that he himself (Lord Londonderry) had previously given notice of his intention to move for the production of the correspondence between the gentleman in the Brazils who had been alluded to and the government. Now, for another hon. member to submit a similar proposition, particularly at such an hour of the night, and such a period of the discussion, was certainly no very usual nor very correct course. But it was not of this fact that he (Lord Londonderry) had now to complain. The honorable gent. had gone on in fact to impute to the consul-general a criminal offence, and to suppose that the information on the subject was to be found in the Secretary of State's office; as if it lay quiet and sleeping there, and as if his Majesty's ministers were disposed to take no notice of such a breach of the laws. On the contrary, however, he (Lord Londonderry) should call on the hon. gent. (Mr. Hume) to furnish him with the information that he must be supposed to possess on the matter, in order that, if that information was correct and true, the party might be proceeded against for a criminal offence. But the second branch of the proposed address was for copies "of the amount received by the consul-general in the Brazils from the vice-consul for his appointment as vice-consul; and a return of the amount of fees charged by the said vice-consul in his office, in the year 1820 or 1821, stating the several rates of charges in detail." Why from hence it would appear that the consul-general had sold to the vice-consul his office, which would manifestly and directly amount to a criminal offence. (hear.) So that it was through this kind of address, agreed to under such very peculiar circumstances as he had stated, that the Crown was to learn that that offence had taken place; supposing that it could be believed to have really occurred. He (Lord Londonderry) would now read a letter from the individual whose name had been brought in question, by which the house would perceive whether it was extremely probable that that gentleman could have sold the appointment as stated. It was a letter from Mr. Chamberlain to this Government, dated the 6th of December, 1817. It should be premised that no port-fees, nor any other fees of that nature, were levied for the vice-consul's office. Any fees that the vice-consul took were called "notarial fees," and had nothing to do with the trade. They were fees given for the performance of notarial business by the vice-consul in the usual way; and such as nobody need pay who chose to go to any other notary. The letter then showed that the office of vice-consul, so far from being one of any advantage, was rather burdensome and disadvantageous. (The noble lord read an extract from Mr. Chamberlain's letter, "denying that the vice-consul's office had ever been productive of any emolument to the consul-general; that in 1807, though so many millions additional were up upon the salary, a heavy loss accrued to the vice-consul; that in a subsequent year his losses amounted to 278*l.* sterling; and that the same result, very nearly, would be found by the end of the then present year 1817.") The salary from the necessity of paying the vice-consul, was reduced to a mere nullity; and though the salary attached to the vice-consulship was 700*l.* per annum, the gentleman who had possessed that post had found himself compelled to give up; from whence, to be so sure, it might reasonably be presumed that the office was a very unprofitable one. Now,

when he (Lord Londonderry) found that an address of this singular character had been voted, he certainly felt it a little difficult to know how he should advise the Crown. But he felt more difficult to conceive how public business was to be managed, if at a very late hour of the night, and on the close of a debate, when no such motion could have been anticipated, the hon. gent., without any notice to him (Lord Londonderry), could bring forward such a proposition. He trusted the hon. gent. would move to have it withdrawn.

Mr. HUME was surprised at the course which the noble lord had taken, for it would appear that the noble lord could not have at all attended to what he (Mr. Hume) had said on this subject on a former occasion; and when the noble lord himself declared that he (Mr. Hume) might have all the information which he wanted.

Lord LONDONDERRY.—Certainly; I did say so.

Mr. HUME, with respect to the fees, was astonished that the noble lord should refer to a letter written in 1817 as sufficient authority in the case; for if he wished for true information, surely he would refer to a much later correspondence. He (Mr. Hume) had not made the assertions which the house had heard of his own information merely; but the noble lord might find them iterated in the allegations of 74 out of 75 British merchants. By their evidence, it appeared that the fees claimed by the vice-consul at Rio amounted in many instances to more than double the fees paid at Lisbon and other places. When he (Mr. Hume) last brought this subject forward, the noble lord had seemed to be as ignorant of the real state of our consular system altogether, as he now seemed to be of the fees (hear); and now the noble lord appeared more disposed to rely upon a letter written in 1817 by the very person who was most immediately affected by the question, than on the statements of British merchants who had actually paid those fees. After a few further remarks from the honourable gentleman, expressive of his wish not to be misunderstood by the noble lord, as desiring to take any unfair advantage, either of his absence or of this misunderstanding, the honourable gentleman declared his willingness to have the order entered on the journals of the 17th of July, discharged.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY conceived that he had been misunderstood by the honourable gentleman, for most certainly he had given notice of his own intention to move for the papers in question—the correspondence between Government and the Consul-General of the Brazils. He would therefore move, that the said order be discharged, which was agreed to.

Lord BINNING rose to present a petition which proved the truth of a remark that had recently been made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that no great or useful invention could be carried into effect without producing injury to some persons or other. This was a petition from the coachmasters, and owners, and postmasters, on the line of road between London and Dover, setting forth the injury which their business had received by the use of steam-boats and packets, in consequence of the superior cheapness to passengers of that mode of conveyance, by reason of the heavy duties on post-horses and land travelling generally. (hear.)

Mr. BERNAL, while he thought that the prayer of this petition could not be supported, did consider that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should consider of some means for lightening the duties complained of.

Mr. CALCRAFT regretted the degenerated generosity of the citizens of Rochester, since it had been represented by his friends, the noble lord and the hon. gent. who had last spoken. (laughter.) When he (Mr. Calcraft) had the honour to represent it, the shoemakers of Rochester, in a petition which they had sent up to parliament, had manifested more public spirit. (hear and laughter.)

Mr. W. SMITH said there was a variety of precedents for reserving such a petition as the present, particularly in the case of the Cambridge navigation canal bill. There the waggon and coach proprietors of the county complained that the opening of the canal would be destructive to their business, as if persons would prefer the conveyance by the barge to that in the coach.

Mr. H. GURNEY complained that foreigners were prevented from availing themselves of the very cheap and convenient transports to the other side of the channel by the steam packet, in consequence a recent regulation at the Alien-office, which was this:—Instead of their taking their passports in London as formerly, they had tickets given them, which on their arrival at Gravesend they were obliged to get change for regular passports. The inconvenient delay which this arrangement produced, prevented the foreigner from going on in the steam boat; and as, in very many instances, economy must be a principal object with him, it was desirable that the thing should be rectified, so as to enable him to go down the river without stopping at Gravesend.

Mr. Secretary PEEL thought that the hon. gent. ought really to have consulted his hon. friends below him before he made these observations; because, if he was not much mistaken, he (Mr. Peel) had seen the hon.

and gallant member for Southwark making some signs of suggestion to the hon. member for Norwich, as if he would say that he had better defer those remarks till the third reading of the alien bill should come on, against which they would be a good argument. (laughter.) The fact was, that he (Mr. Peel) had within this day or two been considering the propriety of adopting some such arrangements as the very one just mentioned by the hon. member for Norwich; and, in fact, that very morning had, he believed, completed it in such a manner, that in future foreigners might be furnished with their passports and embark at the Custom-house stairs in the steam boats, without being required to stop at Gravesend at all. (hear, hear.)

THE TURKISH FRIGATE.

Sir B. MARTIN rose to say a few words as to what had fallen from an hon. and gallant officer (Col. Davies) a night or two ago, in respect to the Turkish frigate now lying in the river. (hear.) What that hon. and gallant officer had said was calculated to impress the public with an idea that Government had either connived at or seconded the alleged warlike outfit of this vessel. He (Sir B. Martin) should now show that any such idea was wholly unfounded. (hear, hear.) In October last a letter was written by Mr. Amherst, one of the Under Secretaries of State, in which he stated that he was directed by the noble marquis, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, to make this communication to the Admiralty, a similar one having been forwarded from the Foreign Office to the Navy Board; namely, that it being understood that the Turkish frigate required to be repaired—the requisite necessary and ornamental repairs might be done to her—the ornamental work might be carried on, but no work was to go on that should increase her armaments. The fitting of the magazine was in the same way expressly prohibited. (hear.) The honourable and gallant officer had stated that the frigate mounted 56 guns, and that she had a complement of 250 British seamen. He (Sir B. Martin) had felt it his duty to forward several queries to the proper officers of the yard. The first of them was—“How many guns had she mounted?” The answer returned was, “that when she came to England she mounted only 16.” (hear.) He (Sir B. Martin), however, was not satisfied with this information, though he had no doubt of its perfect correctness; but he was determined to satisfy his own eyes. He accordingly went down the river and on board the vessel—she literally had not a single gun mounted. Another query was, “How many English seamen are now on board?” The answer, “Only one, and that the sailing master.” (hear, hear.) It was true that about 40 shipwrights and others were now employed on the repairs of the frigate; but they were working only by the day, and were paid by the week. He (Sir B. Martin) questioned them as to their intentions, and they all replied, that they had not entered, and did not mean to enter themselves by any means. He (Sir B. Martin) could only add, that the frigate had arrived in the river as a merchant vessel, and in that character, no doubt, would quit it. If her captain chose to violate the laws of the country by taking on board any warlike stores, he must of course take the consequences; but he (Sir B. Martin) conceived that the superintendent of the yard was much too cautious and safe a man to permit him to do so.

Colonel DAVIES declared that this explanation gave him unfeigned pleasure. His information had been derived from an Englishman, who was to be second in command under the Turkish captain. Whether he meant the story of the 56 guns and the 250 men as a boast and bravado, he (Colonel Davies) could not tell; but such, certainly, was the story that that individual had told.

Mr. F. ROBINSON begged to mention one circumstance that was connected with this matter. When this vessel arrived in the river, there were on board her 40 Greeks. As soon as it was learned that the late unfortunate disturbances had broken out in Turkey, the Pacha of Egypt caused these Greeks to be conveyed to their country at his own expense. (hear.)

Mr. W. SMITH presented a petition from certain inhabitants of Hornsey against the Highgate chapel bill.

Mr. GOULBURN presented a petition from four of the commissioners of judicial inquiry in Ireland, vindicating themselves from certain expressions in the letter of Chief Baron O'Grady.

Mr. HUME asked how long it would be before the commissioners concluded their labours?

Mr. GOULBURN adverted to the importance and extent of the investigation, adding that it was very difficult to state when it would be terminated.

Mr. HUME observed that a very young and inexperienced man, of the name of Plunkett, had recently been appointed one of the commissioners.

Mr. GOULBURN replied, that it was true that Mr. Plunkett had been appointed, but he was not a very young man, and was extremely fully equal to the duties cast upon him.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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Freedom of Publication.

Amidst the variety of occupations which our new prospects necessarily bring in their train, and the preparations we are called on to make for the future, we rely on the indulgence of our Friends and Supporters, to forgive any apparent indifference to their wishes, during this temporary alienation of our attention from the labours to which we have devoted all our physical and mental powers for the last five years. We again assure them that every department of the Establishment for conducting the *Journal* on the same independent principles that has hitherto distinguished it, will be made as complete as acknowledged talents and unwearied zeal can make them; so that we have reason to hope its future success will even outstrip the past.

The security of its property will be placed on a basis that nothing but the Law can touch; and the consummation long so devoutly wished, may be considered as now attained, by placing the Freedom of at least one Indian Press on the same footing as the Freedom of Publication at home, subject only to Trial by Jury, in the hands of an Editor, for whom Summary Banishment without Trial has no terrors, and who will oppose to the temporary decree of an arbitrary Governor General the permanent and protecting shield of British Law.

The degradation reserved for free-born Englishman in India, to be subject to a mental slavery, from which every Hindoo, every Mussulman, and every Jew, if born in this country, is exempt, will soon, we trust, disappear; when we shall no longer behold the humiliating spectacle of the lowest and most degraded of the castes of India being protected in the free exercise and free publication of their opinions, in defence of the most abominable impurities of their faith, in defence of human sacrifices, and of all that the bigotry and superstition of their debasing and revolting religion enjoins and practices;—while an honest Englishman, so far from being protected in the exercise of his opinions, even when they go to contend for the importance of keeping the Ministers of the Christian Religion pure and undefiled in the eyes of Idolaters, and to uphold the dignity of our name and character among the Heathen, may be banished by an arbitrary decree, which could not be exercised over the lowest Pariah or the most abject individual in the land, provided he had but a black skin, and worshipped a false Prophet, or Millions of Idols, and lived in open and avowed denial of the Religion of Christ!

Such a being is absolutely Faux, and may give utterance even to blasphemy, without being subject to arbitrary transportation; because, to him, no process but that of the Law can be extended: An Englishman, however, compared to such a Pariah, is absolutely a Slave, in all that relates to the exercise of our noblest faculty—the reasoning power of the mind:—and dare not even question the competency of a Scotch Divine to serve both God and Mammon, or doubt for a moment the infallible judgements of those who reward him for that, which, if rewarded rightly, would have met with a very different result.

Will the enlightened and high-minded Authorities at Home, of whom the men in power here are but the acknowledged Servants, for a moment longer tolerate the exercise of a power so calculated to degrade the English name and character, by subjecting Englishmen of respectability to an ignominious treatment that they dare not exercise to the lowest outcast of India, without a trial, a hearing, and a verdict sanctioned by the Law? It is impossible!—and so far, it is perhaps more fortunate than we could even have anticipated, that the occasion selected for the exercise of such a power, is altogether so absurd and unteachable, that it will be but to show by this very case, how easily a discretion, given for great and pressing emergencies, may be abused, by being misapplied to cases where no danger to the state, no legal crime, no offence even against arbitrary and ridiculous Restrictions can be shown to exist, and its repeal by a British Parliament will be certain.

On all these points, however, we shall soon have an opportunity to express ourselves more freely and more fully, and

before a higher and a nobler Tribunal. In the mean time, let our Readers be assured that nothing which zeal and temper, perseverance and fortitude, toil and suffering can effect, shall be left undone to bring this arbitrary and despotic power of "Banishment without Trial" before the Courts and Parliament at home, and no exertion spared until so monstrous a blemish on Law and Equity is wiped away, and Englishman in India rendered at least as free in the exercise of their opinions, and as respectable in their personal exemption from arbitrary seizure and transportation, as Hindoo Pariahs, and Mohammedan Outcasts, to whom they are now inferior in that best part of humanity, the freedom of mind, and must remain so, as long as they can be forcibly banished without Trial for daring to utter their thoughts, while the Pariah and the Outcast can bid this arbitrary seizure and banishment defiance!

Let Englishmen put these questions to their hearts; and shame, sorrow, and indignation, must be the universal answer!

Election of Catholic Wardens.

BIENNIAL COLLECTION OF ROMAN CATHOLIC WARDENS.

Such an event as the exercise of the right of suffrage in Calcutta on Ecclesiastical matters should not be passed over in silence; and although the famous Vestry Question has long since sunk into oblivion, we are sure the Protestant part of the community will not fail to take an interest in the proceedings of their Catholic Brethren. This Biennial Election of the Wardens of the Principal Catholic Church of Calcutta takes place to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, in the Vestry Room of the Church denominated the "Church of the Virgin Mary of Rosary." To prepare the minds of those concerned for the firm and conscientious discharge of that duty, we shall here republish an extract from our *JOURNAL* for Sept. 22, 1810,—an era famous in Select Vestry Annals, and which will be long remembered by the Inhabitants of Calcutta, as a day when the voice of reason could be heard, unawed by the influence of Friends or Parasites:—

We cannot forego the temptation of adding here the short history of a successful triumph of pure principle and public perseverance, over licentious lay-abuse and despotic priestly power; as, from its being furnished to us from a source of indisputable accuracy, and having happened within the memory of many on the scene of our present existence, it will be likely to have some effect in encouraging a full attendance at the Meeting of TO-DAY and a determination, on the part of the Friends of Freedom and political justice, (for they are involved in the issue of the question), to support with the firmest tone, and the most unshaken fidelity to their cause, the principles they have all along avowed as their guide, in repelling, by every means in their power, they attempt to trample on their rights as men and citizens.

The circumstances of the little history to which we allude are these:—About forty years ago, the Catholic community of Calcutta who paid their contributions to the Vestry Funds, were in the habit of choosing, by open election and vote, the Churchwarden and other Officers to whose care these Funds were confided. It happened, however, that the Members of the Vestry found the command of the Funds to be so desirable an object, that they set about devising means for securing to themselves the perpetual enjoyment of so inestimable a blessing. The step which they took to accomplish this, was a daring, but nevertheless a successful one. They applied to the Bishop of Malabar, or St. Thomé, near Madras, in whose Diocese the Church here was included; and as this application was probably accompanied by some flattering and appropriate pledge of the Petitioners regard for the very Reverend Prelate, it brought up immediately a Pastoral Letter, constituting the Existing Vestry a perpetual one.

The consequence of this was soon apparent. The Funds were misapplied; Charities neglected; Jealousies and Suspensions went abroad; Donations and Contributions slackened; and at length, the Catholic Church, from having a full treasury and superabundant wealth, became deeply in debt. The Catholic Public, (for with all the despotism of the Catholic Religion and the ecclesiastical tyranny with which we are always taught to believe it clothed, they admitted the existence of a Public, and its right of election, while our power, wider, and more tele-

* As supposed.

rant Protestant rulers, scoff at the very idea of such an unhallowed interference with sacred rights and perpetual privileges). The Catholic Public, we say, demanded an exhibit of the Vestry Accounts, and a change of men, as well as measures, knowing how much the latter always depend upon the former, and how senseless the attempted separation of them is, in those who would fain be thought uninfluenced by characters and opinions.

The cunning enlprits, who where all laymen, set their forces to work; and with their ill-gotten wealth or influence brought over the Priest, who, when the congregation demanded a Meeting in Vestry, shut up the Church! The service of God was of no importance in their eyes, compared with the worship of Mammon; and since we have Divine authority and daily proof of the impossibility of serving these two masters; they adhered to the more profitable service of the latter, and kept the Church impenetrably closed.

The Public were not, however to be shaken; they still retained, it is true, a respect for those feelings and principles, which their pastors and deacons had so wantonly abandoned; and believing the Church, as a consecrated edifice, to be the only place suited to Meetings intended to regulate its government, they lamented in silence, that the shutting it up by the Priests and their bribers, rendered it impossible to remedy the evil without an act of sacrilege in making a forcible entrance, and bursting asunder by violence gates that should never be entered, but in humility and peace.

It was discovered, however, after some time, that as the Church-yard was consecrated ground, it was as well suited to the object of the Meeting, as the Church itself, and that the election of new Vestrymen could take place there, without any violation of their respect for established Church regulations. The gates of this were even barred against them; but they were able to surmount this difficulty, by getting over the railing and the wall; and having met together in full assembly in the Church-yard, elected the Vestrymen of their own choice, and voted the old Offenders, and the Priest who supported them, all out of office together!

But the Sinners held possession, and the Reformists were still unable to force them to open either the Church-yard gates, the Church doors, or, what was the great end of all their wishes, the Church Books and the Church Funds. All were kept closed, in dignified silence, and in contemptuous scorn of so vulgar a sound, as the voice of a clamorous and inflammatory Public.

That Public, however, as faithful to its civil, as to its religious principles and rights, still persevered. A subscription was set on foot,—a prosecution instituted in the Supreme Court;—and an expenditure of 10,000 Rupees at Law, brought down judgment on the heads of the obstinate and iniquitous despisers of justice, and of the public voice.

The Vestrymen were expelled;—the virtue of the Bishop's Pastoral Letter, that constituted them perpetual, was denied, and made of non-effect;—the Priest, who had abused his power in sheltering them so long, was discharged from office;—and the members of this odious Oligarchy were, by the blessing of Providence, dispersed and destroyed!

The benefits of this unshaken firmness and perseverance were soon apparent. The Church Wardens and Vestry were now composed of one Priest and four lay members,—each of whom were made responsible individually, and the whole as a body collectively, to the Catholic congregation, or such of the community as in any way contributed to the Funds of the Church. They were, and still are obliged to close their Accounts every month, and exhibit them publicly every two years; at the end of which period, a new Election takes place, and the conduct of the Wardens and other Officers is examined into, and pronounced on accordingly. Even the Priests themselves are made responsible to their flock, for any irregularities of life, or conduct; and hold their places on the tenure of public approbation!

By this system, which has ever since been adhered to, the Funds of the Church have been so redeemed, that from being as at that period, (about 20 years ago) nearly a lack of rupees in debt, they have now upwards of two lacs of rupees in hand; while Charity has flowed into new and untried channels; and the very consciousness, and security of the Funds being well applied, has tended to make the donations to it more abundant than at any former period of their Church history, tho' neither the Catholic population, nor their means of wealth, have latterly increased.

Such is the brief history of this authenticated case; such the force of public opinion; and such the benefits that result from acting on principles rather than on convenience!

Our Catholic Brethren, after reading the above, need not be told that it is their duty to maintain inviolate the rights bought at such a price and secured to them by so honorable a struggle. But we are sorry to understand, that there exists a disposition in a certain quarter to bring the Affairs of the Church again under the

control of the Bishop of Malapora. Now is the time to defeat such a project; for if the opportunity be allowed to slip, before another Election returns, it may be too late. It is a sacred obligation incumbent on all to give their vote only for such persons as they are confident will in the capacity of Wardens discharge their duty honestly and conscientiously, respect the feelings and interests of the Congregation, and firmly resist any invasion of their rights. The danger with which these rights are threatened may come in an insidious shape; and they ought therefore to be the more on their guard. The Clergy, it is said, wish to include Calcutta in the diocese of St. Thomé, which appears not only subversive of the rights of the Community here; but directly opposite to the express injunction of the Supreme Head of the Romish Church; the Pope having interdicted the extension of the spiritual jurisdiction of the Bishop of St. Thomé over any country not subject to the Portuguese rule. By an Official Letter, dated 21st of November 1807, addressed by the Madras Government to the Bishop of St. Thomé, it appears they interdicted him from interfering, as he was attempting to do, with the ecclesiastical matters of the Capuchins at Madras—an establishment in the immediate vicinity of his Bishopric. His pretensions to jurisdiction over this Church in Bengal must therefore be utterly futile; since it owes nothing either in consideration of its first establishment or subsequent maintenance to any other Portuguese Church in India. As its early History is curious in itself, and interwoven with that of this now princely capital, and the progress of Christianity in India, we shall here give a short extract from a small volume not much known, entitled "*Ecclesiastical, Chronological and Historical Sketches of Bengal: since the foundation of Calcutta.*"

The Portuguese first entered Bengal as military adventurers in the service of the King of Gour about the year 1638, the last year of the Government Nuno de Cunha, the tenth Viceroy of India, these facts I give on the authority of Manuel Farjey Souza, the Historian of Portuguese Asia, who commences his history with the year 1412, and closes it with the year 1640.

The same writer states that Melapore was erected into a Bishoprick in 1607.

In the year 1599 the Portuguese built a Fort at Hoogly, in the place now called GOLHAT. In the same year the Missionaries of the Order of St. Augustine founded the Convent of Bandel, the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, and the Church of Misericordia, to which was attached a Recoilimento for the protection of ladies; the foundations of these sacred buildings are to be seen at this day. The Convent of Bandel was demolished in 1640, and rebuilt by John Gomes de Soto.

In 1632 the Portuguese committed excesses on the Imperial Mahal at Hoogly: the Emperor demanded satisfaction, which was denied him; The incensed Monarch immediately ordered a powerful army, commanded by twenty-two Omrahs, to extirpate the Portuguese. Michael Rodrigues and his garrison bravely opposed, and the Moslems would have besieged in vain, had not a Portuguese Mestie, Martin Pereira de Mello, betrayed the fortress by pointing out a track through which the enemy entered and destroy'd all before them with fire and sword. Michael Rodrigues and 15,000 Christian captives were dragged to the Imperial residence at Agra: Shah Jehan commanded them, as slaves of war, to be distributed among the Moslem families: of the five Augustine friars brought to Agra, four were immediately put to death: the fifth, the Rev. Free J. D'Cruz, was reserved for peculiar and exemplary punishment. These events occurred in 1633.

When the day of punishment arrived, the Emperor ordered him to be cast in an area to a furious elephant. The elephant, at sight of this friar, lost his native ferocity and gently caressed him with his proboscis. The astonished and disappointed Emperor determined on his pardon, and ordering him to be brought to the Imperial presence, granted him three days to reflect on any request he had to make, which should be complied with. The prudent D'Cruz did not require so much time to deliberate, but instantly determined, and solicited his own liberty, with permission to re-conduct the surviving Christian captives to Bengal I present the history to the readers as I find it in the archives of Bandel.

It is certain the Portuguese were again received in favour, as the Emperor presented them with an imperial donation of 777 biggas of land, which they possess this day under the name of Bandel of Hoogly, otherwise Bilegore.

By this imperial grant, the Portuguese were permitted to found Churches, and the friars were exempted from the authority of the Soubahdars, Foudars and other officers of state. Within the limits of

their 777 biggahs; they were allowed to exercise magisterial power, with regard to the Christians, but were denied that of life and death. They were at the same time exempted from all tribute and tolls.

Before the Portuguese were established at Hoogly, the Augustine Monks founded the Churches of Chitragong, Tiagong and Balasore; but of their foundation I can give no particulars.

Job Charnock, the father of Calcutta,* settled there in the year 1699: A few Portuguese followed him to the new settlement, where to increase population and civilization, the English Government allotted them ground for the exercise of divine worship, on which the Friars of the Order of St. Augustine erected a temporary Chapel of mats and straw, and application was made to the Prior of Bandel for a Priest to officiate therein—the Portuguese congregation quickly increased, and before the year 1700 a brick Chapel was erected in Calcutta at the expense of Mrs. Margaret Tench: this Chapel was much enlarged in the year 1720 by Mrs. Sebastiana Shaw during the vicarship and under the direction of the Rev. Fr. Francisco Da Assumpcao. The tomb-stones of these two pious benefactresses were placed, in a conspicuous place, aloft, in the walls of the old Chapel, and now lie, one at each side of the altar, in the present Church of The Virgin Mary of Rosary.

To return to the Election of Wardens of this Church to take place to-morrow,—the right of voting we understand belongs only to such persons of this communion as are permanently resident in the country; consequently such as are foreigners, or merely sojourners for a time, are excluded; as well as persons under age. It is to be expected that all concerned who have the interests of the Church sincerely at heart, will attend and discharge their duty in a manner worthy of the example set before them by those who, as we have seen, so honorably struggled for the rights and privileges they now enjoy; and that they will in like manner have an honest pride in maintaining them inviolate, and thereby deserving the applause of the present generation and the gratitude of posterity.

*From whom Barrackpore is still by the Natives, denominated the *Charnock*.

English Catholic Preacher.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

As many of your Readers are Catholics, I have no doubt but the accompanying Correspondence will be acceptable to them, though the result has not been as was generally anticipated. On Sunday Next the 16th, there is a General Meeting for the Election of new Wardens, and I trust your early publication of these Letters, will be the means of bringing about, with a different set of Wardens, the realization of a most reasonable wish, which the present Gentlemen seem so unaccountably to set their faces against. A short letter was written, on receipt of theirs of the 5th instant, asking to be favored with some of their "various reasons;" but, as if they were not liable to be called upon to explain the grounds on which they act, they have hitherto given no answer to this request.

Your obedient Servant,

Feb. 13, 1823.

A LOVER OF ENGLISH PREACHING.

To the Wardens of the Roman Catholic Church of Nossa Senhora do Rozario, of Calcutta.

GENTLEMEN,

In addressing to you the present Letter, we feel persuaded that the request contained in it will be met by you with that cordiality which its very interesting nature cannot but inspire; and if any thing could warrant in us a hope that you will take the matter into your earliest consideration, the importance thereof, we are assured, will constitute our best justification in support of such a hope, for the subject can only be viewed in one light by all parties, yourselves as well as us.

The Calcutta Church of Nossa Senhora do Rozario, whose Funds you have been appointed to control and watch over, has long attracted the admiration of all who enter her sacred precincts. This admiration has undoubtedly originated in the grandeur of the edifice, the splendour of her ornaments, the yearly improvement of her resources, and the imposing solemnity with which,

by such helps, she is enabled to perform the august services of our Holy Religion. Her establishment of Ministers is also respectable, and by their ministry much comfort has undeniably accrued to the Catholic Community of this settlement and its Mossoul Dependencies. But amidst all these advantages, one deficiency has long been most sensibly felt; we allude to the absence of a Priest qualified to Preach and perform other sacerdotal functions in the English language. This deficiency, which it is now high time should be filled up, to complete our wants, is the object of our present address. We are sorry that a point so momentous should hitherto have remained seriously unagitated; but it is never too late to remedy any defects.

We will not now argue that an English Preacher ought to have formed a part of the Establishment at least twenty years ago; the difficulty of procuring one may have had its weight, and a tacit uncomplained submission to what then appeared to offer no remedy, might be allowed to plead in excuse for any want of zeal or exertion on this head. The aspect of the times and the state of education in those days, may also, perhaps, be admitted as grounds in extenuation. But the face of things has so much altered since, that the education received by us and generally bestowed on our Children, renders an English Priest at present as necessary and indispensable as any other; and as this necessity is becoming every day more and more imperious, we should indeed be wanting to ourselves and to all those dependent on us, did we remain any longer unmoved at a deficiency affecting our dearest and best interests.

There is a Gentleman now in Calcutta, the Reverend Mr. Murphy, who from all that we have seen and heard of him, appears to us to be every way qualified to supply the deficiency under which we are labouring. Having ascertained that he would cheerfully reside among us, we ventured to address our respected Vicar, with a view to his securing to us Mr. Murphy's services. In the true spirit of paternal regard our Petition has obtained from the Vicar that kind attention, which, while it reflects honor on his pious sollecitude for our spiritual welfare, has afforded to us the sincerest gratification.

In meeting our wish, the Vicar has gone as far as his own authority permitted him, and has further been so generous as to offer his Table and a room to Mr. Murphy's acceptance. More he could not certainly do. As in these, however, cannot be comprised all Mr. Murphy's wants, and he may not most likely feel disposed to reside at the Parsonage, we consider ourselves bound to bring his case under your special contemplation. In doing so, we will not say what we would consider a handsome and sufficient remuneration for his exertions. Your knowledge of what is necessary for a respectable Minister who may wish to reside by himself, will aid you in determining the scale of Salary which should be allotted to Mr. Murphy out of the funds of the Church: and in requesting you will be so good as to take an early opportunity to meet for a decision on this point, we repose every confidence in your judgment and liberality. On a subject so particularly important as the permanent residence among us of an English Catholic Priest, there cannot indeed be a diversity of opinion or feeling, for you are all as interested in the question as we profess to be; and as in the Establishment of a Charity School (made a dependency of our Church) you manifested a most laudable anxiety to put the situation of its conductors on a footing calculated to ensure respectability in the eyes of all, we cannot and will not entertain a doubt, that in assigning an allowance to Mr. Murphy and to his successors, you will be governed by the same feelings and considerations; though in our estimation the present is a question of far greater importance, involving as it does the creation of an appointment for future Divines of Talent, who in the assurance of a respectable help to the performance of their sacred functions, would bend their views to this neglected part of the world, and thus keep up a succession of able English Preachers, &c. for the pious calls of our increasing Community.

We remain, &c.

Calcutta, January 30, 1823.

(NINETY TWO SIGNATURES.)

REPLY FROM THE WARDENS.

GENTLEMEN,

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 30th ultimo, and in reply thereto we are sorry to say that for various reasons it is not in our power to comply with your wishes. We are however happy to find that an effectual mode of realizing your desires is now on foot, and we trust it will meet that support which it deserves, and we shall be happy to concur in it by every means in our power.

We remain, Gentlemen, &c.

Calcutta, February 5, 1823.

Nossa Senhora De Rozario.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

I am impelled by two reasons to request you will have the goodness to give the accompanying letter a place in your excellent Paper. The first is, that the greater part of my former letters on the subject appeared in the JOURNAL; and the second, which I suppose will have most weight with you, that it is not my intention to tax your time or indulgence again with communications relating to the same question.

I remain, your humble Servant,

February 12, 1823.

— ONE OF THE MANY.

TO THE PARISHIONERS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF NOSSA SENHORA DE ROZARIO.

GENTLEMEN,

The Belligerent Powers, in the late memorable Choir contest, having retired from the field, equally well satisfied, the one with retaining possession of the Choir, and the other with having succeeded in demonstrating to every candid mind that such possession was not only unauthorized, *ab initio*, but also a wanton and uncalled for encroachment on the rights of the Catholic Community, I am induced, consequent to the approaching Biennial Meeting of the Parishioners of Nossa Senhora De Rozario, for the purpose of electing New Wardens, to draw your attention to the subject, in the hope that you will avail yourselves of the opportunity which that event will afford, of determining by your suffrages, a question respecting which but one opinion is entertained by the unprejudiced, and on the merits of which you are fully competent to decide.

It may be of importance to anticipate an objection that will probably be made against occupying the time of the meeting with any discussion on a matter comparatively of little moment; but let it be remembered by those who may view the question in this light, that the primary object of bringing it to a fair hearing is not so much to obtain the restoration of a right which has been wrested from us, however unjustly, if that shall be found incompatible with the general good, as to avert the mischievous consequences of unresisting submission to an unwarrantable assumption of power, tending only to engender distinctions that ought not to exist, and to pave the way to more serious encroachments and innovations, whenever the ambitious passions and sinister views of a few misguided individuals shall prompt the attempt.

If it be desirable to save ourselves from the possible mortification of witnessing the practical illustration, at our cost, of the vulgar adage "*give an inch, take an ell*," we should not tamely suffer ourselves to be robbed of a privilege which we have enjoyed since our Church was built, however insignificant in itself, without endeavouring to know at least how we have forfeited it. The privilege it may be said is hardly worth the hue and cry that it has occasioned: Granted. How shall we then account for the eagerness notoriously manifested by a few individuals to concentrate it in their own persons? The only satisfactory solution to this perplexing question is to be found in the vanity of the party alluded to. They were not indifferent to the *celus* that would attend so brilliant an exploit as that of successfully overthrowing the pretensions of the party whom they, in the plenitude of their power, probably look upon as *Les paves Canaille*,

to a distinction (pardon the inconsistency of the term) to which they themselves aspired; it would be a feather in their cap, it would give them consequence in the eyes of the vulgar, raise them in their own estimation, and add to their self-importance. These are inducements whose potent pleadings have intoxicated many a wise head, and no wonder that those of the *Select* have yielded to their maddening influence.

It remains with you, Gentlemen, to determine whether "such things shall be." Your privilege has been usurped, and converted into a convenience for a few Masters and Misses, your access to the Choir has been obstructed, lest your presence there should contaminate and incommode the new privileged race of occupants. Your feelings have been disregarded, and your pretensions slighted, and you must be the best judge whether under this accumulated aggravation of insult, it behoves you to take any steps at the Meeting on Sunday next, to maintain the dignity of your relative situation in the eyes of the Public, and to compel that respect to be paid to you, to which, as a corporate body, you are unquestionably entitled.

If the privilege exercised during a long course of years by the whole body of the Catholic Community, of frequenting the Choir without molestation, is eventually to be sacrificed to the wayward humours of a dozen Spoiled Children, let the sense of the majority of the meeting, agreeably to general usage, decide the point. The Wardens, or the Vicar, or both combined, who ought to have interposed their authority to suppress any attempt to create distinctions where equality of claim was conspicuous, have by their supine indifference to an unwarrantable act of usurpation on the part of a few individuals, virtually confessed their want of power to interfere. The time is at hand when you may, by acting with the spirit befitting men who fill an important station, render justice to yourselves. In your collective capacity your prerogatives are great, and fully adequate to the accomplishment of that end; and as the power of electing new Wardens resides solely in you, it must be obvious that the ejection of the old ones is equally within your reach.

The Choir has apparently been thrown open of late. But I trust you have too much penetration to suffer yourselves to become the dupes of this farce. If you do, you must not be surprised at finding the restriction resumed, when twenty-four months shall have to intervene ere the cause which has produced the relaxation just noticed, can again operate. Seven hundred and twenty-nine days for *offence*, and only one for *attemperament*, are odds that, if once given, may be considered as a virtual surrender of your rights into the hands of those who have been daring enough to invade them.

This is the first time, Gentlemen, that I have presumed to address you, and I promise you it shall be the last. I am not ambitious of engaging in controversy, and I have determined to withstand every provocation, consequent to the present appeal, to intrude myself again on the Public. My object in the present address cannot be mistaken. If it were required to exemplify the evil tendency of the recent innovation in our Church, I might appeal to the evidence of your own eyes for a glaring and indecorous departure on this very day (Ash-Wednesday) from the reverential mode of conducting the ceremony of marking the foreheads of the Congregation with Ash. This ceremony was invariably performed at the foot of the Altar, but the dignity of the *Select* would be satisfied with nothing short (*O! tempora, O! mores*) of the Minister tramping up the Choir to perform it for them. In the emphatical style of Oriental Writers, I conclude with "*what can I say more?*"

Your obedient Servant,

February 12, 1823.

ONE OF THE MANY.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

BUY		CALCUTTA.		SELL	
1 11	a 2	On London 6 Months sight, per Bona Rapese, ..	1 a 2		
		Bombay 30 Days sight, per 100 Bombay Rapese ..	62 a		
		Madras ditto, 94 a 95 Sa. Rs. per 100 Madras Rapese.			
Bills on Court of Directors drawn, at 2 6—Exchange 25 a 30 per cent. prem.					
Bank Shares—Premium 62 per cent.					

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—637—

Query.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir, I shall feel obliged to any of your readers who will answer the following Query.

Can the Supreme or any of the Local Governments of India send home a British-born subject who is married to an Eurasian or Country-born woman?

It is I believe generally understood that the transmitting an individual so circumstanced would be a stretch of the power conveyed by the Charter; but we know that this is the common fault of Governments, and that in the case of an obnoxious individual they are not over-scrupulous, when their object is to tranquillize their own fears, or to gratify a long harboured wish.

Yours, &c.

A PARTY INTERESTED.

Summary Banishment.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir, Banishment without Trial has at last made its appearance in this far-famed City of Palaces; notwithstanding that the Marquis of Hastings had not nobility enough to engage in it, though he held the reins of Government in India for the protracted space of nine years!

From the JOURNAL of this morning, I perceive that you are shortly to leave this country, and embark for England on a Ship, which should be called "THE SUMMARY TRANSMISSION." As it is not in my power to keep you here against the wind and tide of superior force, all I can do is to wish you a safe and prosperous voyage to your native land. A little recreation, Sir, after so much hard work, is a good thing. It will do you no harm. For the last four years, you have been engaged in an unceasing toil of Editorial labours, from which this needy country has derived such a fund of solid benefit as it was a stranger to before. From so arduous and honourable a career, therefore, it is time to enjoy a short respite. But I hope, Sir, that you will not give us the slip, to use a vulgar term, when you reach England. What I mean is, I hope that the sweet allurements of Freedom in your own land will not so fascinate you as to tie you down there for ever. India has a strong claim to your further services. Think of her, therefore, and return to your accustomed duties with as little delay as possible. That you may do so at no distant period, and this too "with a renovated constitution and an invigorated mind," is the sincere wish of,

Sir, Your obedient Servant,

February 14, 1823.

A CORRESPONDENT.

P. S.—A neat Volume on India, written on your passage home, for publication in England, would be an acceptable present to the English Public on your landing.

NOTE OF THE EDITOR.

We are obliged by our Correspondent's good wishes, and shall endeavour to improve our absence to the best advantage, in preparing for the public eye at home, materials that could never see light here while the power of Transmission exists.

CALCUTTA BAZAR RATES, FEBRUARY 14, 1823.

	BUY.	SELL.
Remittable Loans,	Rs. 28 8	38 0
Unremittable ditto,	0 0	0 0
Bills of Exchange on the Court of Directors, for 12 Months, dated 30th of June 1823,	28 0	37 0
Bitto, for 18 Months, dated 30th of April, 1823,	28 0	35 0
Bank Shares,	6100	6000
Spanish Dollars, per 100,	385 0	305 0
Notes of Good Houses, for 6 Months, bearing Interest, at 5 per cent.		
Government Bills, Discount,		at 1-8 per cent.
Loans on Deposit of Company's Paper, for 1 to 3 months, at 2-8 per cent		

Conduct of the Wardens.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

On Sunday next is to take place the Biennial Election of New Wardens for the Principal Catholic Church of Calcutta. The Parishioners who have been informed of this circumstance, will do well to bear in mind, on the present occasion, the loud murmurs which have existed for some time past against the Gentlemen now in office, some of whom have never been popular, yet, what with votes of dependents, and votes of relatives, they have so managed matters as to get re-elected during the last few years; and (what is laughable) have each time endeavoured to impress the Public with an opinion, that they undertook with much reluctance a continuance of the duties thus forced upon them!

Least some of those who purpose attending on Sunday, may not have learnt the course of proceeding pursued by these gentlemen, I will avail myself of your widely circulated JOURNAL, to mention a fact or two, which exhibits an arbitrary and despotic conduct, scarcely to be paralleled, much less excused. Having very lately been called upon, in a sober and well written letter, signed, I am told, by nearly one hundred persons, to make some pecuniary arrangements for securing to the English part of the congregation, the services (approved by the Vicar) of the Reverend Mr. Murphy, an Irish Clergyman now on the spot, they have in a dry and brief reply informed the applicants, that "various reasons" put it out of their power to meet this call! So much for one fact. The other is; that a Gentleman at the Election of 1821, originated a few questions about some Rules and Regulations. After a short discussion, he was requested by the Wardens to address them on the subject, and was promised attention to any communication he might send. A letter was accordingly forwarded, for which I understand he never so much as received an acknowledgement!

With reference to the first fact, I will say, that if men by whose suffrages Wardens hold their post, are to be treated in this cavalier manner, when they ask for what is only reasonable and just, being refused even (as mentioned to me) an explanation of some of their "various reasons," as if those who nominate them must not expect to know the grounds of their proceedings; it is high time that such an exercise of Official Trust, should be put a stop to; and I hope the Parishioners will come forward on Sunday and assert their rights. With reference to the second fact referred to, I will say, that the treatment was unjustifiable, and that it can bear but one construction, viz. an insult as well to the immediate writer of the letter as to the Parishioners at large. Should the Gentleman so directly ill-used, be alive, I trust he will not fail to come forward at the ensuing meeting, and demand some explanation on the subject in the presence of all assembled.

Before I conclude, I must advert to another matter which is of too important a nature to be passed over unnoticed. There are several things out of the established routine of business, on which the Wardens cannot and ought not to decide, without calling a meeting of the Parishioners; but, as if the Parishioners were nobody, and the Wardens considered themselves invested with full authority to spend the money of the Church as they thought proper, these Gentlemen took upon themselves, lately, to subscribe 2,000 Rupees to the Irish Charity. This act had no reference whatever to Church matters, and as such, I maintain that the Wardens had not the power to subscribe what they did, without consulting the Public; whose Funds they were controlling. I am far from condemning the nature of the Grant; I only say, it should not have taken place except by the consent of the Parishioners, and I hope to see the Wardens made sensible of this their error, for it is by such acts that abuses get ground, and precedents are dangerous to overcome when allowed to obtain an irregular footing.

Your obedient Servant,

Calcutta, Feb. 13, 1823.

A PARISHIONER.

Non-Remittable Debt.

We submit to our readers without comment the following essay relative to the recent Government Notification advertising a discharge of a large portion of the Un-remittable Debt. The essay was published only this day. It is in form of a pamphlet, and our anxiety to put our readers in possession of a writer's sentiments who clearly understands the interesting subject under discussion, and treats of it in an able and intelligent manner, has induced us to abbreviate our leading article of this evening to make room for the former.—*India Gazette.*

REMARKS

On the Effects likely to be produced by the contemplated Discharge of a Portion of the BENGAL NON-REMITTABLE DEBT, and the expediency of adopting the Principle of the English Funds in framing any New Loan—as the best means of protecting its Creditors from further reduction of Interest, and consequent deterioration of property.

The Notification, which issued on Friday from the Treasury, announcing the intention of Government to discharge a large portion of their unremittable Debt, and to allow a partial transfer into a Loan bearing a reduced Interest, has caused very considerable alarm amongst the Proprietors of this Stock. These holders, for the most part, are opulent Natives, and to all appearances have been totally unprepared for an event so seriously affecting the value of Property.

By the European branch of the community, however, that possess the capability of balancing the several considerations which regulate Public Credit,—the rise and fall of Public Funds,—and the progress of national opulence,—the present result has not been unforeseen, but on the contrary, considered as an event likely to take place on the first convenient occasion.

The particulars of the projected arrangement are not expected to be promulgated for some days, and, in consequence, a variety of conjectures are afloat upon the probable tendency which the measure may ultimately produce on this denomination of Stock. Some indeed consider it improbable that Government will—at all—be able to accomplish the object by a reduction of Interest. For this, they assign as a reason that the unremittable debt has never attained a premium of 20 per cent., and, consequently, that Government will not be able to borrow at an Interest of 5. But this, in our apprehension, is quite erroneous. In any new Loan, it is only reasonable to suppose, that if the Company are not already compelled by the Legislature to liquidate their Debt agreeably to priority on the Register, which will ensure any new Loan against discharge before the remittable, unless the Rule is voidable by keeping a separate Register—a guarantee would be given to the Creditors against any further deterioration of their Property, and it is the past absence of this pledge which, in our opinion, has prevented this Stock from advancing to so high a premium.

To Native Capitalists, the Remittable Loan possesses no advantage, in point of interest, over that of the unremittable, for though they may otherwise dispose of it at higher rates, it costs them originally more. And we have not a doubt but, with a guarantee of the nature in question, Government could not only accomplish the projected measures, but, ere the expiration of any considerable period, that a 5 per cent. Stock would carry a premium of at least 8 per cent.

If such premises are correct, and the state of the Public Treasury will admit of a Positive discharge of the entire Loan, it must cease to be any matter of surprise that Government should wish to relieve their Treasury from the payment of a 6 per cent. interest upon a Loan, in which no Investment can even now be effected under a premium of 14. In such a measure, their would be no violation of faith to the Creditors, (however disappointed they might be in the expectations which originally tempted them to subscribe to this Loan,) but on the other hand, an imperious obligation which Government owe to their Employers. And moreover, if we consider the value which the public Securities have attained in Great Britain, and that a protracted peace must still further enhance them, we may reasonably expect that the unremittable debt of this Presidency will, even at a reduced interest, again rise to its present premium.

In such an anticipation there appears nothing extravagant. The Funds in England do not produce 4 per cent. and under the existence of continuing Peace, and the heavy pressure from which Agricultural Interests are suffering at home, there is every reason to look for a further rise in the National Funds.

Under the operation of the projected Plan, Remittable Stock must experience a very considerable rise, certainly to 20, if the above estimate of five per Cent Stock shall prove correct.—Bank Stock also will receive an ultimate enhancement, though at first the Redundancy of Money may occasion a temporary depression, and Landed Property arise greater than any, such property in advantageous situations, will assuredly afford the most productive method for the Employment of Capital. It pro-

fects the Proprietor from the risk of those heavy Losses which would inevitably accrue to an Indian 5 per cent. Stockholder from the event of any sudden war—any considerable extension in our Commercial Concerns—or emergency of the State.

Already we indeed know of some very large Properties having on Saturday been sold for prices that will barely yield more than 8 per cent. on the capital without any allowance for repairs, the want of tenants—taxes or other contingencies—but the Proprietors, reasonably depend upon the receipt of 6, and thereby gain considerably more than the interest they would derive in any public funds.

In one point of view, however, we lament the injury which we foresee the projected measure to be likely to entail on the incomes of retired and retiring Servants of the Company. It is also, to be regretted as creating impediment to Promotion, and further as postponing retirement from those scenes of active life to a period when the faculties and best energies of the mind must have become more than ordinarily impaired through the operation of age combined with the necessity of so unusually protracted a Residence in an ungenial climate. Under such views, we regard the projected schemes, as too likely to be detrimental to the Public Interest and they are well worthy the attention of an enlightened Government. They are indeed of vital importance to the welfare of the state—and we earnestly hope, for its sake, in planning any contemplated arrangement, by which this Reduction of Interest is to be effected, that they will not be forgot;—indeed—they seem indispensable to the Protection of the interests of Government from consequences which otherwise would too probably ensue, and prove a most serious evil in the administration of this flourishing empire.

It is probable in the New Loan, that Residents in England will enjoy a continuance of the advantage they now derive from Bills for the remittance of Interest, but still their incomes will undergo a diminution in a similar proportion to that of the Native Proprietors, and 5 per cent. interest with a remittance at 2s. 1d. we deem insufficient to accede rate retirement on a scale compatible with the preservation of an efficient Service. The powerful appeal, therefore, which was made to the Court of Directors, in the past year, by the Civil Servants at this presidency, in behalf of a Pension and conditional Purlough, can require no better support, we conceive, than it is likely to find in the present measure. Such an appeal had before, every prospect of being graciously received, but when their Hon'ble employers find, in the midst of their prosperous Revenues, the Interest, or taxes in fact, so much reduced on a debt of nearly, we presume, 15 Crores, it is only fair to anticipate increased success to the prayer of the Petition, and such we cordially desire it.

Of the resources of Government, to accomplish the projected reduction of interest, with complete success, we have the fullest confidence, and moreover under a stagnation of Commerce similar to what we have witnessed of late years, and without any cause to disturb the tranquillity of Europe and India for two more, we are equally convinced that a still further reduction might be accomplished, with the same facility—even if not effected at the present moment.

With a protracted Peace, it is most unlikely that employment will be found for the Capital of the Country at even 4 per cent. Few Capitalists, however, may be disposed to admit the position, but let them remember, they were equally incredulous when interest was formerly reduced from 8 to 6, and, we think, they will find themselves equally disappointed if they speculate on the realization of more than 4 on the expiration of 2 more years of peace—without any intermediate extension of our Indian Commerce.

Both Europe and India now begin to recover from the effects of those wars that involved them in the extraordinary expenditure they encountered for so many years. During that period too, large capitals were displaced from those securities, in which they had been before profitably invested. But now the crisis is past—the State is beginning to repay the debts it had previously contracted, and, in the midst of the stagnation of Commerce which now surrounds us, we incline to the doctrine originally urged by an eminent statesman—now no more—that in times of war, when India alone engrosses the supply of foreign nations—we can sell (with better prospects of ultimate advantage) more—than during a peace—when not only Europe, but other countries possess the direct opportunity of supplying themselves.

What effect the projected measures may produce upon our exchange, it is, at this moment, impossible to foresee. Without access to acknowledge of the extent of the contemplated payments in Cash, no criterion can be formed of the probable amount of those Proceeds which may be compelled to seek re-investment in foreign Funds. Should a large portion of this debt be discharged, the means of re-funding will be found extremely circumscribed, and till our commerce can employ a larger capital, than we estimate present circumstances to admit, we conceive that recourse must be had to the Real and Public Securities of other Countries. In this event—we must look to a rise in our commercial Exchanges, but otherwise we do not anticipate that they will encounter any material effect, and certainly the state of the Money Mar-

lets in Great Britain holds out no temptation for our Funds to be dispatched thither until the Indian Capitalist shall be driven to the last extremity—and with all his ingenuity and activity—finds that his Motto "Aut inveniam viam aut faciam" will, with the most moderate expectations scarcely procure him Investment in India for such Property, as may be displaced by the present arrangements.

How far it might be expedient, in any New Loans, to fix the interest at a rate which—in times of the greatest opulence—would protect creditors from reasonably being subjected to pay more than Par, is a question not unworthy of consideration. We are inclined to the belief that its adoption would in some respect be beneficial. For one—it would effectually guard the Public creditors against liability to further changes in the rates of interest,—and from, consequently, being enabled to see Stock, at its probable Maximum, proprietors and especially Natives could calculate with increased certainty on the Chances of a Rise and Fall in the Public Securities. By such a plan they might trace, with greater facility, the natural causes which indicate the likelihood of any approaching variation in the Price of Stock, and not have also to dread the interference of Government.

Such frequent changes, as we have of late years witnessed, in financial measures, must operate to the prejudice of any community. But in India, where the bulk of the Proprietors are so entirely unacquainted with the common principles of Finance, the introduction of a New Scheme is attended with more than common danger to the interest of Society,—and particularly when the newly projected Plan is not simultaneously announced with any set that tends so seriously to affect the value of property, in the former—from which public confidence is withdrawn.

English Consols bear an interest of 3 per cent. and it is barely possible that that Stock can ever reach Par—and totally so to suppose that the condition of Great Britain will ever admit of its rising to a higher price—or, in other words, of a reduction of interest below the above rate.

So far, therefore, we could wish to see an interest standard established at Calcutta upon a footing whereby a guaranteed minimum would protect the Public Funds against further deterioration, and such we think would be found a most acceptable pledge, especially by that branch of the community which constitute the native creditors of the Indian Government.

But in quoting the English Funds, we desire it may not be supposed that we assume 3 per cent. to be a rate from which that Government is precluded from making any further reduction—that even 4 or 5 per cent. is calculated as a standard for India—or that the acceptance of even 99 Rs. to repay—a 100 at 4½ per cent. would be sufficient guarantee to the Creditor for adequate permanency.

On the contrary, such a pledge against an early *bona fide* discharge loses much of its value in this country from the present very high state of the Indian Funds, and that any improvement in Commerce, with an increased Revenue, would at once enable Government to redeem their debt through the operation of the Sinking Fund, on terms which would defeat one of the objects contemplated from a *bona fide* discharge of the above nature.

We are aware, in the former case, that no such interdict exists, (though as we before said, the condition of the country is not likely to admit a lower) and equally so that the principles that constituted the Consols and most of the other Public Funds in Great Britain—bear no sort of analogy to the system on which Loans are contracted in modern times. The state too of Public credit, at the several periods in which they began, was equally at variance, though we quote this description of Stock on the whole as the most effectual method of protecting creditors in any New Loans. But still if the surplus Revenues of India will not admit a positive discharge of the remainder of the non-remittable Loan, we cannot divert ourselves of considering a projected new one—at a reduced interest—as likely, in the common course of events, to prove subsidiary, rather to the extinguishment by transfer—than to the discharge of debt though avowedly the contemplated Loan may not be opened for that purpose.

If however the projected plan should hereafter be found to bear such a construction, we fear we shall be forced to say with a well known Proprietor, that at so short a period after the Company had succeeded in diminishing the payment of a reduced 6 per cent. interest, by 20 per cent. more (if the creditor availed himself of one of the two modes in which the Company conditioned with him to pay that interest) we could not reasonably have anticipated upon the discharge of the non-remittable Loan—except in the degree that the Improvement of the Public Revenue would admit the actual *bona fide* payment of the principal in order to relieve the Company from the *onus* of paying interest at all upon such portion. The Promissory Notes of that Loan bear Date the 31st of March 1823, and engaged to pay half yearly interest after the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. One Year, however, has not even elapsed since the above date, and it is justly asked of us in what possible manner could a Creditor look to the discharge of a Loan which has

endured for less than the foregoing period. Indeed the question is one of difficult solution, and we foresee equal difficulty—and no common labour in planning any arrangement which will afford to all holders an equal chance, or option, of participating in an eventual transfer which may be offered by the opening of a new Loan.

Old Dutch East India Company.

Sir, To the Editor of the Bengal Hurkaru.

Perhaps the following account of the old Dutch East India Company from 1603 to 1729 may interest some of your readers, and with this view I have forwarded it to you.—It is very imperfect, but at the same time contains some facts that are not generally known. This Company was established in the year 1602, and for the first five years the following dividends were paid.

In 1605.....	15	Per Cent.
1606.....	75	ditto.
1607.....	40	ditto.
1608.....	20	ditto.
1609.....	25	ditto.

These dividends were all paid in money.—In the next 7 years the average amount of the dividends was 7½ per Cent. and these were commonly paid in produce. The dividends for the next 8 years were paid in money, and averaged 10 per Cent. In the three following years they were paid in cloves, and amounted to 41 per cent. on an average. In 1633 they amounted to 44 per cent. and were paid in spices. In 1640, two dividends were paid amounting to 40 per cent., 5 of which was paid in money and 15 in cloves. In 1641, 45 per cent. was paid in cloves and in 1642, 50 per cent. in money. In 1643 only 15 per cent. was paid and this in cloves. For the next 29 years, that is from 1644 to 1672 the dividends, amounting to 2½ per cent. on an average were with one exception paid in money. In 1773, bonds payable by the provinces of Holland for 33½ per cent. were given. From 1676 to 1682 bonds were given bearing interest at 4 per cent, the average amount of which was 19½ per cent.—From that to 1689 money was paid amounting to 30 per cent, and from the last mentioned period to 1698, bonds of the company bearing interest at 3½ per cent. and payable in 1740, were given to the amount of 2½ per cent. For the next 30 years or up to 1729, money was invariably paid, the average amount of which was 25½ per cent. It will thus be seen that in 123 years the average of the dividends was but little more than 24 per cent. The highest rate was in 1606 and 1610 when 75 per cent. was paid, and the lowest was 12½ per cent, which occurred several times.

The original stock of the Dutch East India Company was divided amongst AMSTERDAM, ZEALAND, DELFT, ROTTERDAM, HORN and ENCHUYSEN in the following proportions:

	Florins:
Amsterdam.....	3,674,915
Zealand.....	1,333,822
Delft.....	470,300
Rotterdam.....	177,400
Horn.....	366,868
Enchuyzen.....	336,775
Florins.....	6,459,840

For the management of the affairs of this company, seventeen deputies were chosen, and in each of the towns a chamber was established for the transaction of business. Of the deputies, eight were chosen by Amsterdam; four by Zealand; one each by Rotterdam; Horn and Enchuyzen; and the Maase, Middleburgh, and North Holland, chose one by turns.

During the time the Dutch were in the zenith of their power they had factories or settlements in the following places.—Of these BATAVIA was the principal, and had under it, the chiefships of JAPAN, TONGKIN, SIAM, JANNE, PALEMBANG, and ARACAT, and the factories of MACASSAR, BANTAM, and JAPARA. The next to this in point of rank were AMBOINA, BANDA, TERNATE, MALACCA, CEYLON, and COCHIN, under which was the whole of the MALABAR Coast, POLICAT, under which were the Coast of CONOMANDEL and PRGU. HOOGHELY, the chief of all the settlements in BENGAL, SURAT, and PERIA, with a residence at GONAROOM, and subordinate ones at ISPAHAN and BUSSORAH, and lastly the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE under which was the ISLE OF FRANCE.

Such was the state of the Dutch possessions in the East at the beginning of the 13th century. It would exceed the bounds of a letter to give you in this a history of the manner in which they were lost to that nation, and I shall beg leave in a few days to trouble you with another on that subject, and if you think it eligible, with a few notes on the French and other companies which formerly had existence but are now no more. In the mean time, I am, Sir, Yours

Calcutta, February 11, 1833.

Z.

Most Important Case to Shop-Keepers.

COURT OF REQUESTS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1823.

HASLEBY AND CO. versus CAPTAIN CONWAY.

The Plaintiff in this case are *Enron* Shop-keepers, residing in Calcutta, and sought to recover from the Defendant a Captain in the Army, the sum of 83 Rupees for Goods sold and delivered by them to him in the month of December last.

The ground upon which Captain Conway, rested his defence appeared to be, that inasmuch as the Plaintiff's general advertisement stated, "that a credit of three months would be allowed for the accommodation of their friends," he was not liable to be called upon to liquidate the demand until that period had elapsed; to which it was rejoined on the part of the Plaintiffs, that although such a credit was usually allowed, yet when it came to their knowledge that the person was about to quit Calcutta for the upper Provinces, they always considered themselves entitled to call for immediate payment, which had been done in this case, but a refusal having followed, they had been under the necessity of resorting to this Court for redress.

Mr. McLeod (the sitting Commissioner) proceeded to give Judgment, observing that as it had not been shown to his satisfaction that the Goods had been specifically sold for ready money, he did not consider the Plaintiffs entitled to a single anna, until the expiration of the allowed credit, and therefore nonsuited them and ordered them to pay the Costs.

We give this decision to the public in the hope that it will serve as a caution to the Calcutta tradesmen in the sale and delivery of their property, as it goes to establish a most pernicious precedent, tending to destroy all confidence between the Seller and Buyer, and will render it incumbent on the former to institute the strictest inquiry as to the ultimate destination of every individual customer, who may not come to his shop with money in his hands, so it appears to us quite evident from this decree, that if but a single day is wanting to complete the limited time, and the Merchant should learn that his Debtor is on the eve of proceeding out of the Jurisdiction of the court, into the territories of His Majesty of Oude, he has no resource, but must call for his Ledger and place the amount to profit and loss. We anticipate that the tradesmen of Calcutta, when this shall come under their notice, will see the necessity of immediately putting their advertisements in such form, as to obviate the difficulty they now labour under from this decision, and the ruinous loss which must necessarily result from it. In addition to the above observations, we are called to notice a circumstance which tho' not perhaps of frequent occurrence, cannot be too strongly reprobated, we allude to a private hearing (on the bench) of the cause of action about to be discussed before it was called on by the proper officers of the Court. This practice should we think be discontinued for the sake of all parties concerned, as it naturally leads to a supposition (however unfounded it may be) that hearing only one side of the question must bias the mind of the hearer to the prejudice of the other party. We trust that this fact has only to be mentioned to prevent a recurrence of it.—*Editor of the Harkara.*

Sporting Intelligence.

CALCUTTA MEETING, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1823.

MATCH FOR 100 GOLD MOHURS.—R. C. st. 10.

1. Mr. James's ch. A. Don Felix, (Lyons) 7 7
2. Mr. Berwick's gr. A. Junah, 8 7

A Sweepstakes of 50 Gold Mohurs each.—h. f.—for two years old.—T. Y. C.—Three Subscribers.

1. Mr. Oakeley's *Aroundpois*, by *Duch Toly*, out of *Barbara*, (Large) 8 0
2. Mr. Robert's ch. c. *Master Edward*, (own brother to *Master Robert*), 8 0

A very fine Race and won only by a head. Time 1' 20"

MATCH FOR 50 GOLD MOHURS.—R. C.

1. Mr. Robert's *Junah*, 8 0
2. Mr. James's *Sir Lowry*, 8 6

Won easy.

Marriages.

On the 10th instant, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Reverend J. PARSON, Sergeant Major W. JOHNSTON, of the Calcutta Native Militia, to Miss SARAH FORD.

Cawnpore, on the 1st instant, Ensign ALEXANDER DONALD, of His Majesty's 14th Foot, to Miss ELISA HACKETT.

Petty Court.

To the Editor of the Bengal Harkara.

SIR,

I was not a little surprised to-day to see the Editorial remarks in your paper, relating to the cause of Hasleby and Co. versus Conway. Many of them seem quite gratuitous and reflect on the conduct of the Sitting Commissioner in a manner which you will at once observe to be unjustifiable and improper. Besides this the principle upon which the Commissioner gave his decision appears to me to be quite correct. On looking at the advertisement of Messrs. Hasleby and Co. I find that they have worded it as follows: "a credit of three months will be allowed for the accommodation of their friends." Now I really do not see any reason why Captain Conway or any other Gentleman should be excluded from the honour of Messrs. Hasleby and Co's friendship, merely because he chooses to go up the country. It would be idle to suppose that this advertisement referred only to the personal friends of Messrs. H. and Co. for if this were the case, it means nothing at all. The fact is that the advertisement in question is only a bait held out for the purpose of attracting people to the Shop of the advertisers, and as no one is excepted, every one to whom these Gentlemen think proper to deliver goods has an undoubted right to three months' credit. The advertisers insert this notice with their eyes open, and unless they add to it, "with the exception of persons going into the dominions of the King of Oude and the Upper Provinces," these individuals as well as all others have a right to the stipulated credit of three months. It is really a little too bad, that people should be induced to purchase goods of Messrs. Hasleby and Co. on the faith of their advertisement, which promises three months' credit, and that when a week or ten days has elapsed, these Gentlemen should be allowed to turn round and say, "now you are going up the country, and must pay us directly." They inserted the advertisement, knowing what they were about, and must be answerable for the consequences of it.

With regard to the latter part of your remarks, I will make only one observation and have done. Was your reporter sitting on the bench, that he overheard the "private hearing," before the cause was called for? I really do think that unless we have some proof of this circumstance, we ought in common justice to conclude that the conversation turned on other subjects, and that neither the Defendant, nor the Commissioner could be so forgetful of their duties—the one, as to attempt to bias the mind of the other—or the other, as to allow this attempt to have succeeded, even if it had been made.—I am, Sir, Yours,

Calcutta, Jan. 13, 1823.

Ships Advertised for Different Ports.

Ships' Names.	Commanders.	Where Bound.	Probable time of Sailing.
Thames,	Litten,	London,	10th March
Minerva,	Bell,	London,	1st February
Sir Edward Paget,	John Greary,	Cape & London,	Ditto
David Scott,	G. Bonyon,	Cape & London,	20th February
Woodford,	Alfred Chapman,	London,	1st February
Prince of Orange,	John Moncrieff,	London,	1st March
Princess Charlotte,	J. McKean,	Liverpool,	End of Feb.
Duc de Bordeaux,	Moran,	Bordeaux,	In a few days
Bourbon,	Bennet,	via Bourbon { Bordeaux {	Ditto
Mercury,	David Chavellere,	via Pondi { Cherry {	Ditto
Sun,	Anderson,	C. of Good Hope,	20th February
Eliza,	Woodhead,	Ile of France,	In a few days
John Shore,	J. J. R. Rowman,	New South Wales,	Ditto
John Adams,	O'Brien,	Eastward,	Ditto
Eleanor,	Taber,	Ditto,	In 2 or 3 days

Shipping Arrivals.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Name of Vessel	Flags	Commanders	From Where	Left
Feb. 14	Victoria	British	M. Gahsalves	Coringa	Jan. 27

Shipping Departures.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Name of Vessel	Flags	Commanders	Destination.
Feb. 13	Erased	British	D. Jones	Bombay